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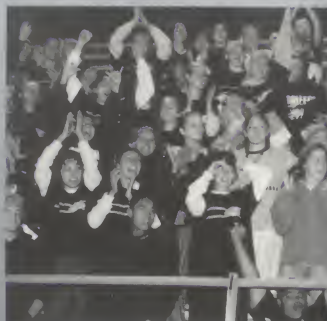
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One Last Look

Having some fun between classes, senior **Diana Ballas** and junior **Ashley Wilson** sit on a dinosaur which was "borrowed" from Griffith Golf Center for the Homecoming festivities. Griffith beat E.C. Central in the Homecoming game on Oct. 1.



practicing for the holiday concert, sophomore **Cathy Imowski** and junior **Kelly Mann** play their instruments during band class. **Cory Loyler** took over as the new band instructor this year. Other new teachers included **Thomas Deskovich**, physics and chemistry, **Diane Ritter**, family and consumer science, **Michele Duffala**, business, and **Jack Gabor**, advanced physical conditioning and health. **Gabor** also took over as the boys' basketball coach.



At the end of a school day, a few final students get picked up to go home. This is the last year the front of the high school will look like this because a whole-school renovation will begin in the summer of 2000. Plans include moving the main office to the southeast side of the building and grouping all the classrooms in subject clusters.

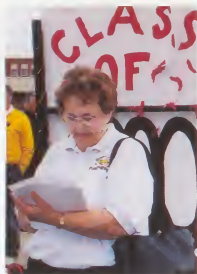
Finishing a pot, senior **Myoshia Scott** smooths out one of the last coils. The ceramic classes did a variety of projects, including coil pots, slab construction, teapots, and little figurines. They also learned how to make clay, and fire and glaze their projects.

Taking a break in her Spanish III class, junior **Andrea Melendez** sits back and relaxes. Students had a choice between Spanish and French for a foreign language. For college, students had to take at least two years of a foreign language, and the Honors Diploma required either three years of one language, or two years of both of the languages.



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Clockwise from top left: Freshman **Julie Connell** watches as junior **Carey Baccino**, sophomore **Veronica Jacobs**, senior **Jaci Bolsega** and juniors **Scott Negrete** and **Elizabeth Guzman** pump themselves up before the production of *Sugar*. Sophomores **Vanessa Rodriguez**, **Shannon Churitch** and freshman **Valerie Saltanovitz** groove to the music at Turnabout. Putting the finishing touches on his Tic-Tac-Toe board, freshman **Charley Hancock** works during his manufacturing systems class. Junior **Marc Brady** rings in the New Year with funny glasses and his "dance partner." Jotting down scores, **Ruth Carmichael**, science, helps out with the judging before the Homecoming parade. Junior **Michelle Gaddini** scans the menu at Bennigan's while on a night out to eat with her friends. Big picture: Senior **Nathan Pollock** smooths out a piece of metal for an upcoming project during his art IR.

One thing that is usually certain about the first day of school is that the students will have schedules and lockers. However, that wasn't the case this year. Due to problems with a new scheduling program, many students were without lockers or even complete schedules. These setbacks were quickly cleared up and the school year continued on as usual.



Cast goodbyes would be said to a few teachers who would be leaving GHS. Ronald Divjak, physical education and health department head, Larry Parker, technology education department head, and Robert Witt, art department head, and Herb Noonan, physical education, would retire at the end of the year.

Cook around at the building for the last time. The administration wasn't the only thing changing. Starting in the fall of 2001, the school would be getting an entire face lift. Renovation of the library, student services and heating and lighting in the classrooms were part of the renovation. One major area would house guidance, the nurse, attendance and the administration. The new layout of the school would incorporate subject clusters, where classes with the same subject matter would be grouped together.

Major changes were being planned everywhere and it was time for students to take *ONE LAST COOK*.



Casting memories were made throughout the school year. Events such as Homecoming, Turnabout, and Prom broke up the monotony of the school days, and the weekends let many students relax and spend time with their friends. Often times, the weekends caused places such as 'Round the Clock and The Purple Steer to be swarmed by hungry students, eager to shell out cash for a bowl of lemon rice soup or a strawberry waffle. Showplace 16 and Schererville Golf Center also became crowded, full of teenagers making the most of the two day break with a movie, such as The Green Mile, or a quick game of mini-golf. Half-days were the highlight in many students' lives, where they took full advantage of the time off from school by going to nearby restaurants for lunch or to Southlake Mall for a couple hours of shopping. Game systems like Playstation and Nintendo64 took over many students' free time with games like Tony Hawk's Pro Skater and Super Smash Bros. Before and after school, students rushed to Student Council meetings, academic superbowl practices, away basketball games, track meets, and Sugar rehearsals. Schedules were tough, and homework was always a struggle to finish, but somehow, it all got done in the end. Passing periods and lunch gave students a brief break in their day and a chance to catch up on all the news.

Impressions, made in the school by both teachers and students, formed through all the countless interactions between the two groups. A part of this was attributed to the new styles of fashion that flooded the school, including many retro trends, such as capri pants, turtleneck sweaters, and flared jeans, and name brands such as Aeropostale, Express, Structure, and Abercrombie and Fitch. The school became a little crazy before Christmas break due to the anticipation of the '99-'00 rollover and the V2K bug, but everything turned out alright as school resumed smoothly in January.

~Jessica Everhart

Clockwise from top left: Junior Jack Johnson, freshman Carolyn Joseph and junior Joshua York concentrate on a game of chess. Sophomore Adam Brownfield and senior Jaci Bolega talk at the end of a school day. Junior Phillip Cadle runs over to help his teammate as junior Michael Tomaszewski and senior Kyle Konopasek try to take down senior Christopher Brookhart in a game of football after school. Belting out a song, seniors Lindsay Belgie, Allison Gatlin, Emily Coddington, Hayley Baccino, and Diana Ballas make the most out of Turnabout on the stage. Sophomore Nathan Laird focuses in on his Nintendo64 game during a New Year's Eve party. Behind: Students relax and eat lunch in the crowded cafeteria.





Dressing crazy, and
having fun during... — — — —

Dressed in her pajamas, senior **Kandis Knight** prepares for the start of Spanish class, not bedtime. Some students wore pajamas, slippers, robes, and even carried their teddybear around for pajama day.

Spirit Week

What do wearing pajamas, sporting your favorite team tee, and dressing retro have in common? They are three of the five days that made up Homecoming's Spirit Week. The other days that Student Council decided on were Dress Up Day and Black and Gold Day.

"I think it [Spirit Week] is a fun way of showing school spirit," junior **Stephanie Bridegroom** said. "You don't have to worry about what to wear the whole week because it is already planned."

Students had different opinions on which day they liked the best. According to freshman **Christen Nash**, Dress Up Day was her favorite.

"I enjoyed Dress Up Day the most," Nash said. "It's nice to give and receive compliments about what you decide to wear."

While some people enjoyed dressing up, other students thought dressing down and being comfortable was a better idea.

"Pajama Day was the best," Bridegroom said, "It was really comfortable and you got to wear your favorite pajamas all day long."

Whether dressing up for all five days or just picking a select few, most students chose to participate and enjoy taking part in Homecoming and the activities during the week.

~Brandi Harveth



Annie Hecht

Showing off his '70s apparel, sophomore **Stephen Eaton** takes a break from class with sophomores **Jamie Sutton** and **Steven Berger**. Many students went all out for Spirit Week, even though the dress code was still enforced. "I knew no one else was going to go all out on this day [70s Day] so I just decided I would," Eaton said.



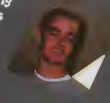
Annie Hecht

Speak your mind...

What are some ways to show school spirit?

"I always show my school spirit by wearing my black and gold Adidas pants on Friday, with a black and gold shirt to match my black and gold hair."

-David Moore, senior



"I attend soccer, football and basketball games to support my friends and to support my school."

-Lindsay Powers, junior





Annie Hecht

Panther Pride

Mascot promotes school spirit

Waking children laugh and smile was what sophomore **Veronica Jacobs** enjoyed doing. This was the first year that she dressed as the Panther mascot for every home football and basketball game, and she loved every minute of it.

"I do it for the kids," Jacobs said. "I also get a rush running with the flag because the crowd cheers and screams."

Although this may seem as if it was all fun and games, there are a few disadvantages of being the mascot.

"I sweat so much in the costume and it stinks," Jacobs said, "Most people don't know I am a girl either."

Jacob had many memories from dressing as the Panther.

"Just all around messing with the cheerleaders on the field is my favorite memory so far," Jacobs said. "I get so many laughs by screwing up or mimicking their cheers."



Annie Hecht



Kelli Schott

Dressed in their bright gold class shirts, freshmen students show their school spirit by attending Homecoming's Activities Night. Some students chose to wear their class shirts on Black and Gold Day to show their school spirit.

Strutting his stuff through the hall, senior **Michael Baker** shows his school spirit on '70s Day. "That was the only thing I wanted to dress for. I like the '70s. They were all my own clothes too," Baker said.

"I always wear my soccer and tennis uniforms when we have a game that day to show school spirit."

-Rachel Albright, sophomore



"I dyed my hair for soccer Sectionals, because I am willing to do anything for the (soccer) team."

-Steffen Radar, freshman

"I support my students by attending their after school activities, and I acknowledge them when they achieve something."

- I r m a Coddington, Spanish



Speak Your Mind...

What's the best part of Homecoming?



"The court activities were the best, but the peanut butter was really disgusting!"

-Samantha Adame, senior

"When we won the game with seven seconds left the emotion was overwhelming."

-Bret Rocchiatti, junior



"Getting in shaving cream fights was the best. I had it all up my nose!"

-Nichole Goodwin, sophomore



"Making the pyramid, when we got to cheer at activities night."

-Jeromy Glover, freshman



"I especially liked the powder puff football: the girls had no clue what they were doing."

-Daniel McCoy, history



Kelli Schom

And the battle between the classes continues at this year's

Activities Night

Activities Night is the one time when the majority of the school can unite to have a battle between the classes. Rain, which seemed to be the trend for past homecomings, held back, and outdoor activities continued as planned.

Junior Juliann Gajewski said that it has been the junior girls goal to beat the senior girls in certain activities.

"It [Activities Night] was memorable this year because powder puff and tug-of-war are always our biggest challenges, and this year we beat the seniors in the tug-of-war," said Gajewski. "Even though the seniors cheated in powder puff, we almost beat them in that too."

According to senior Kyle Krause, having a lot more participation in the events helped make the night more enjoyable. For Krause the most memorable thing was that the seniors won.

"I liked the tug-of-war the best," Krause

said, "because it showed that the senior guys were a lot stronger than everyone else."

Activities night was a new experience for the freshman. Although many said they did not get a fair chance against the seniors they were happy to be able to participate. In the food eating event participants had to chow down on peanut butter, crackers, bananas, and other hard things to keep down.

"The best part was the food eating contest," freshman Quince Ballas said. "It was really hard to eat all that stuff, but we knew we didn't have a chance to win."

Activities night is a time for students to forget about their worries and unite together.

"This year was so much better. Because of all the rivalry between the classes, we all really came together as a group," Gajewski said. "All of the school spirit also made it a lot more fun."

-Candice Peters



Jeremy Martin

Getting started to decorate the halls for spirit week, freshmen Teri Calhoun, Stacey Caron, Julie Connell and Lisa Stalbaum prepare to make signs for the hall. The juniors won hall decorating by a half of a point over the seniors.

Showing off their pearly whites, seniors Jason Lebata, Emily Coddington, Kevin Wlazlo, Lora Melton, Matthew Sherry, Allison Gatlin, Joshua Banning, Nicholas Crawford and Diana Ballas pose for the traditional photo in the courtyard. During activities night they also participated in events just for the court, which Coddington and Lebata won.



Josh Moon

Pulling with all their might a few of the sophomore girls go up against the junior girls as Russ Radtke, physical education, watches. "It was pretty sad even the freshmen beat us. We did not win one single event," said sophomore Brittany Parent.

Going for the sack junior Sarah Handley tries to stop senior Samantha Quintero as junior Sarah Fry waits to intercept the throw. "I wish we had a girls football team, because Powder Puff is my favorite part of the year," said Handley.



Jessica Everett

Homecoming Hoopla

Seniors '20s	Theme	Juniors '50s
Sophomores '80s	Tribute to the Decades	Freshmen '90s
Float Juniors Won	Activities Night Seniors Won	Banner Seniors Won
Spirit Week Seniors Won	Date October 1st Against East Chicago Central score 35-33 We Won! Court	Hall Decorating Juniors Won
Queen: Diana Ballas Candidates: Samantha Adame, Emily Coddington, Allison Gatlin, Lora Melton		King: Nicholas Crawford Candidates: Joshua Banning, Jason Lebata, Matthew Sherry, Kevin Wlazlo



Mark Blythe

Astonished that she had won senior Diana Ballas gives a big smile as she hears her name called for Homecoming Queen as senior Nicholas Crawford looks on. "I didn't think I was going to get nominated, let alone win so I wasn't nervous about it, I was more nervous about Shawn [Medsker, who was hurt earlier in the game]."

Wearing the right colors, sophomore Kelly Davis walks through the halls after lunch. Bright colors were just one of the fashions that were worn at GHS this year. "I would go in my grandma's basement and find clothes and wear them because I don't like wearing the same clothes as everyone else," Davis said.



Victor Sendejas

Shop Around

The Top 5 Places to Shop

1. Kohl's
2. American Eagle
3. Aeropostale
4. The GAP
5. Abercrombie and Fitch

Survey of 75 GHS students



Eric Solczynski



Annie Hecht

Reaching into her leopard print purse, senior Allison Gatlin discusses the day's events with seniors Lindsay Beigle and Angela Parent at lunch. Animal prints showed up around school this year in the form of purses, pants, shirts, and coats.

Sporting his sense of style, sophomore Nicholas Demske reads his invitation to a Halloween party from senior Pamela Sims as sophomore Bartholomew LaBounty watches. "When people see me they're not going to forget me because I stand out," Demske said about his choice in clothing.



Annie Hecht



Students dress how they
want because they've...

Got Style

Walking down the hallways at GHS the variety of styles and fashions is tremendous. From the latest trends in clothes to the most original hair styles, students find ways of expressing their sense of fashion and themselves.

Students like senior Anne Medsker believe that fashion is more than whatever clothes happen to be your style.

"It's boring to wear your hair the same way every day so I try to do my hair differently sometimes," Medsker said. "Fashion doesn't just include clothes. Fashion can deal with hair and jewelry too."

What sets the fashions and trends at GHS? Is it whatever famous people wear? Is it what the Homecoming Queen wears?

Students such as Beth Connell believe that fashions are whatever a lot of people are wearing.

"When I think of fashion, I think of the clothes from the popular stores that everyone shops at," Connell said.

Besides wearing what other people are wearing, advertising and sex appeal also play a part in deciding what to wear.

"Fashion is definitely sex appeal," freshman Lauren Jajowka said. "If you see someone who looks good in something, you're going to want to wear it."

Some students chose to wear what's "in" while other students chose to be different and express their fashion sense in other ways. No matter what, everyone had their own way of expressing themselves.

~Colleen Vechey

Taking some time out after lunch, sophomores Quinn Bingham and Frecla McMillon look at a photo album. McMillon dresses up almost every day to show her sense of style. She said she has been dressing up ever since she was little.

Speak Your Mind....

What fashions do you like to wear?



"I like flared pants, 3/4 sleeved shirts, and sweaters."
-Holly Williams, sophomore

"I don't have a special brand that I wear. I just wear whatever looks good."
-Christopher Alexander, freshman



"I love fashions that express someone's personality and tell something about them."
-Amber Farr, senior

"I like to wear loose fitting clothes. I like more of a laidback look."
-Douglas Stone, freshman



Marching into the halls,
students prepare for the...

This is a typical scene of the overly crowded hall which students struggled to get to their lockers every day. Frustration arose for students as they try to deal with the situation of crowded halls.

Battle of the Day

Getting to classes became more like fighting a battle for some students. Hallways were crowded with students gathering in large circles to share news with their friends, which made passing by a little more difficult.

"With people just standing in the middle of the hallway," senior Stacey Schafer said. "It is hard to get through and most of the time when I say excuse me people can't hear me so I just have to push my way through."

Upper classmen may not like the locker situation but they have dealt with it before. Freshmen had to adjust to the new halls for

this year. They were also separated in two hallways on the opposite sides of the school.

"It is hard to make it to my classes on time because I'm not use to having to go so far for all my classes," freshman **Tabitha Black** said. "Having some of my friends in separate halls is hard too because we have no time to socialize. At least upper classmen have that."

Most students hoped when the renovation of the school started the situation with the crowded hallways and lockers would improve.

~Jessica Nieto



Eric Salczynski

Taking it easy, sophomore **Adam Wilbert** relaxes outside of the chemistry class in the early morning. "It doesn't really bother me, being at school early, because it gives me a chance to wake up," sophomore **Courtney Schmidt** said.



Jocelyn Williams

Speak your mind...

Where is the place to be in the morning?

"At my friend's locker to see what's new."
-Christina Paris,
freshman



"Always at Brittany Parent's locker because I'm madly in love with her."
-Nicholas Demeko,
sophomore





Kelli Schwan

Full of Spirit

Students keep the tradition going

Locker buddies and other students cheered on their teams, even if it wasn't from the sidelines, by decorating lockers. They filled the lockers with treats and gave the teams words of inspiration to show their support.

"Some of my friends asked me to help decorate a locker and I just thought it was really fun because I had the chance to make the football players feel special," sophomore **Laura Anderson** said.

The football players were happy to see so much support and appreciated the goodies they received. Junior **Bret Rocchietti**, along with the other football players, decorated his locker buddy's locker to show his thanks.



Annie Hecht



Jeremy Martin

Hanging close, sophomores **Melanie Johnson**, **Alida Baldao**, **Mallory Bernath**, and **Hillary Bernath** head back to class after lunch. "I think the halls are just way too crowded," M. Bernath said. "I'm hoping things get better when they start changing the school."

Grabbing, **Melissa Hart**, **Lisa Hartman**, **Hayley Baccino**, and **Lindsay Belge** catch up between classes. Friends had little time to chat during passing period as they moved with the crowd to make it to their next class on time.

"I usually don't linger in the halls. I go straight to my first hour."

- **Katey Willigan**, junior



"On the ledge by the windows because it's away from all the crowds."

- **Letitia Cullens**, sophomore



"The cafeteria because I have to have food in the morning."

- **Joshua Teague**, junior

With their last show behind them, seniors Jason Tomscl and Diana Ballas give each other a hug. Ballas passed roses to all of her fellow cast members after their final performance on Sunday.



Brianne Bieker

Relaxing during a break, senior Jaci Bolsega and junior William Barriga joke around while junior Jason Lundquist plays the guitar. "They were telling me about how they liked my dress," Bolsega said.



Annie Hecht



Jeremy Martin

Here's the Facts

Title

Sugar

Dates

November 19, 20, 21

Summary

In the musical version of the movie *Some Like It Hot*, the fall play, *Sugar*, is about two men, Joe and Jerry, who witness the St. Valentine's Day Massacre. Because of this, they must run from Spat's gang and join an all girls band. Once in the band, Joe falls for Sugar, one of the singers. Throughout the rest of the play, the two men encounter many adventures and eventually Joe, Jerry and Sugar sail to the coast of South America with Osgood Fielding on his yacht.

Singing his heart out, senior Michael Cservenak practices his number for the show. Cservenak has been part of the drama department for the past two years. "Sugar was my favorite play" Cservenak said. "The cast was so great and I had so much fun."

Jeremy Martin

Ending to their "old men," sophomore Renee Wotkun and junior Sarah Blanchard take care of junior Joseph Bertucci, sophomore Stephen Eaton, and senior Justin Albright. Sugar went in search of her own "old man" so she could inherit his money.

Adding the final details, freshman Julie Connell puts the finishing touches on junior John Jensen's make-up. Jensen played the role of Osgood Fielding, who fell in love with Jerry/Daphne. This was his fourth performance in a school play.



Brianna Becker

Oh the wonders of wearing

Heels and dresses

Dresses, high heels, bras, and nylons are all things you would associate with being a girl. But in this year's musical Sugar those things were for the boys in the cast. Seniors Jason Tomcsi and Michael Cservenak, doubled as Joseph/Josephine and Jerry/Daphne, respectively, were two examples of this.

"It was interesting," Tomcsi said. "It's not something you picture yourself doing every day."

Not only did guys dress as girls but girls were dressed as guys. The five "men" from Spat's Gang were played by girls.

"It was fun because I got to wear

suspenders and talk like a guy," senior Christina Govert said.

Along with the fun came some challenges. Dressing in drag took a toll on the boys' bodies.

"My calves hurt so bad the first couple of days from the heels," Cservenak said, "but after a while I could walk around in them pretty well."

Because of all the fun and hard work, everything seemed to come together.

"At the rehearsals, it didn't seem like anything was going to work," junior Janis Walenkiewicz said, "but everything worked out really well." ~Michelle Cuneo

Speak Your Mind...

Why did you join play?



"In play, there's a togetherness, kind of like a family."
-Beth Connell, senior

"I want to play music in college so I thought it would be a good experience."
-Jessica Thompson, junior



"I heard that it's a lot of fun, and you don't have to try out for make-up."
-Christy Clark, freshman

"I love acting. It's alot of fun pretending to be someone you're not."
-Chuck Lau, senior



"It's so much fun. I get to act like an idiot on stage and no one cares."
-Daniel Riordan, junior



The musicians in these bands
just want to rock and roll...

Jumping as he slams out the music, senior Brooks Smith performs "Your Rules", one of his band's original songs. Smith's band WORD for WORD performed at the Daily Perk in December for "Perkapalooza" and played all original songs.

All night long

Lots of people go to see bands and enjoy listening to them play, but not all of us know the hard work of getting ready and the fun of playing for crowds. Bands started by students have played at places around the area such as The Daily Perk in Highland and Central Park. Band members have many reasons for playing.

Junior Matt Lewis, who joined the band Strange Reality, enjoys regularly playing at The Daily Perk.

"I like playing because all our friends come to see us play," Lewis said. "It's a lot of fun."

Other musicians feel that it is more fun to play when the crowd is into the music.

"I definitely enjoy playing, but only for people who are serious about it," senior Brooks Smith said. "I would never play for people who weren't into it."

After all the long hours that a band puts into what they do, playing can be for a crowd, can make it all worth it.

"It's awesome," senior Michael Bakker said. "It gives you a sense that you are part of something and you can make people feel good." ~Amanda Grcewich

Finding their rhythm, juniors William Barriga and Angel Velez play at a Spanish Club fiesta. Barriga and Velez played rhythm guitar and drums in the band Muhammed Tabasco.



Kelli Schoon



Eric Sulczynski

Speak your mind...

Why do fans go to see bands play?

"My friends are in bands and it's a great place to hang out when you come listen to them."
~Jeremy Brzycki,
junior



"I like to come and see how good the bands are and it's fun to see them with my friends."
~Marie Ritchey,
junior





Kelli Schoon

making music

Ryan Horn turns a family love into his own

Although it doesn't always seem cool to do stuff like your family, sometimes it can be fun. Junior **Ryan Horn** learned his love for music from his family members and has transferred this love into playing the trumpet for the school band and the guitar for his own band, **Muhammed Tabasco**.

"I love playing the guitar the best because I can work at my own pace and learn what I want to," Horn said.

Horn not only enjoys playing but also is very dedicated to it. He spent four to five hours a day for about three weeks trying to learn the ten minute solo at the end of **Freebird** by **Lynyrd Skynyrd**, one of his favorite songs to play. It is also a favorite of the people who come to see him play and know him by his guitar playing.

Maybe it's not so bad to be like your family.



Kelli Schoon



Kelli Schoon

Getting into the music, sophomores **Laura Anderson** and **Ashley Smelko**, junior **Joseph Bertucci**, and sophomore **Mitchell Cervantes** practice in sophomore **Andrew Augustyn's** basement. The five were all members of the band **Sex-Point**.

Warming up before they play at the **Daily Perk** in Highland, junior **Matthew Lewis** and senior **Brandon Fane** make sure their instruments are tuned. Fane and Lewis played in the band **Strange Reality** which performed regularly at the **Daily Perk**.

"The places that they play have a good atmosphere because my friends are in one place together."

-**Demetrios Georgis**, senior



"There are always lots of people and I like to hear the covers of songs they do" - **Justin Albright**, senior

"Watching and listening to the band is a lot of fun" - **Damian Mitchell**, freshman



Slipping into the moment, senior Robert Miller and his date, Griffith alumnae Stephanie Martin, dance to a slow song. Turnabout, planned by the sophomore class, featured music by DJ Dr. Soundgood.



Matt Fliter

Having a good time, juniors Timothy Hubbard, Kevin Cap, Kathleen Vaneek and Brad Sowinski take time out of dancing to talk. Many students chose to stay in the area and go to such places as Woodhollow Lodge and Dick's Restaurant instead of going to Chicago.



Matt Fliter



Jeremy Martin

Laughing it up, junior Rachel Thomas, sophomore Andrew Augustyn and junior Crystal Wilcox hang out together on the dance floor. "The dance was the best part of the night for me," Augustyn said.



Jeremy Martin



Annie Hecht

Practicing the art of long arm photography, senior Mike Cservenak and sophomore Renee Wotkun pose themselves for a picture. Wotkun said that she was unable to get to close to her date because she had mono at the time.

Smiling from ear to ear, sophomore Brittany Parent reacts to being named Turnabout princess. "I was really nervous, I didn't think I had a chance at winning," Parent said. "I really thought that Allison [Banta] was going to win."

Do A Little Dance

Date

December 4

Where

St. George Orthodox Church

Colors

Green and Gold

Song

"Wonderful Tonight" by Eric Clapton

Court

Princess: Brittany Parent

Prince: Paul Worley

Candidates: Allison

Candidates: Ryan Blythe,

Banta, Emily Jennings,

Matthew Gonzalez, Anthony

Danielle Trueblood and Holly

Rodriguez and Jonathon

Williams

Rogowski



— The same old dance brought on
a new....

turn of events

— When you go to a dance you want everything to be perfect. Sometimes everything goes according to plan, but sometimes it does not always go that way. Complications such as forgotten tickets, wet limos and other adventures arose for some Turnabout goers.

For junior Janis Walenkiewicz the crimp in her night came early. Before going to the dance her date, senior Justin Albright, realized that he forgot the ticket.

"The limo had already come so we had to tell the limo driver to take us all back to his house to get the ticket," Walenkiewicz said.

For some their limo did not work out as well as they had hoped for. On the way

home from Turnabout activities, sophomore Nathan Laird and his friends found themselves in a wet and leaky limo.

"Every time the driver would stop and then go, water would come down and get everyone wet," Laird said.

Parking posed a problem for those who decided not to take a limo. Senior Michelle Cuneo and her friends tried for an hour to find a parking place in Chicago.

"Afterwards we planned on going to the Cheesecake Factory but by the time we found parking, the kitchen was closed in every place we tried," Cuneo said.

Despite the problems, 240 couples still attended and had a good time at the dance.

~Amanda Grcevic and Brandi Harveth

Speak Your Mind...

Why did you decide to go to Turnabout?



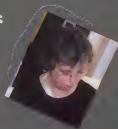
"I went because when you're younger you always see older people going and it looks like fun." Christy Clark, freshman

"I went to have fun with my girlfriend and my friends." Ramon Rocha, senior



"I went because I had a friend who needed to fill up their limo." Brianna Bieker, sophomore

"I chaperoned because I think that it's important for teachers to see their students in a different light." Irma Coddington, Spanish



"I went because I had never been and I thought it would be fun." William Barriga, junior

Speak Your Mind...

What do you think about Fridays?

"I feel good because I know I have a weekend that I don't have to do anything. I just do whatever I want."

Wesley Pollock,
senior

"I feel good and relaxed because the weekend's ahead so I can go out with my friends. We play pool, go to parties, or go to each other's houses."

- Eric Folgar, senior

"I just can't wait 'til school's over so I can be with my friends."

- Marcin Karbowniczak,
freshman

"I get very excited because I have the whole weekend to go shopping or do whatever."

- Julie Furgert,
junior

"I feel relieved on Friday, knowing that the week is behind me, because a lot of pressure is gone."

- Paul Chidichimo, senior



Jocelyn Williams



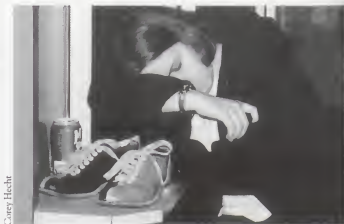
In the Background

You can always find a lot of students in the stands

One of the most popular things to do on a Friday night was go to a football game. Sophomore Emily Jennings often attended the games.

"The football players are pretty awesome and fun to watch. I usually went to the games with the same group of people. We have the same interests and we're into the Griffith spirit," Jennings said.

Feeling a little tired after a long Friday night, freshman Jaclyn Gerdes takes a break from bowling with her friends at Plaza Lanes. "Jackie was tired because it was 11:15," freshman Corey Hecht said. "Bowling was fun because all of our friends were there. I did pretty well—I got 100."



Corey Hecht



Waiting for their movie to start, juniors Sarah Fry and Sarah Handley talk before seeing a film at Showplace 16, a popular Friday night hang-out. They saw *Toy Story 2*. It was Handley's third time viewing the movie.

In school all week.
Now it's...

Time to Party

Some people spend Friday nights at a football or basketball game. Others go to the movies or check out the local band. Whatever the case, Friday nights are a time to get away from the stress of school.

"I like Friday because that's the only day when I'm not busy," junior Michelle Popovich said. "I have a sense of freedom on Friday because I can do what I want."

Other students also enjoy the freedom they feel on the weekends.

"I like to go out with my friends and just be outside," senior Marissa

Villaseñor said. "Fridays are a relief and I'm excited because I don't have to worry about school and I can just hang out."

Senior Demetrios Georgis looks forward to Friday night since he has time to go out with his friends.

"We play pool, go to the movies, and go out to eat," Georgis said. "I'm glad to have the week of school over and have a few days of relaxation."

Friday nights were a time for hanging out and recovering from the school week, with few restrictions on what you chose to do.

~Susan Huss



Jeremy Martin

Getting in some practice, sophomore Michael Hernandez plays video games at sophomore Jeremy Martin's house. "We play video games and hang out a lot at Jeremy's house. My favorite video game is Tony Hawk's Pro Skater," Hernandez said.

Steering their way through obstacle courses, juniors Michelle Gaddini and Angelina Alvarez play a boat-racing arcade game at Buffalo Wild Wings. They played the game to pass time while waiting for their food on a half day of school.

Mark Pitzer

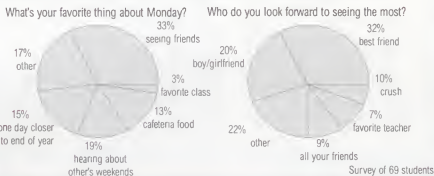
Getting in shape, sophomore Jill Popovich, freshman Valerie Saltanovitz, and sophomore Veronica Jacobs jog around the field house. The swim team had a 5:45 a.m. practice on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings. Another swimmer, senior Everett Mull, said the morning practices were hard. "When I had to get up for practices I thought, 'Why am I even in swimming?'" Mull said. "Right now I have play going on, so I try to get rest. Plus, I have a lot of chores I do around the house."



Jeremy Martin

Believe it or not

Students said there were some good things about Mondays.



Jeremy Martin



Annie Hecht

Trying to stay awake, sophomore Julie Ristic watches with senior Kyle Krause as Jim Graff, art, demonstrates how to make a plaster fish in sculpture class. "I feel crummy on Monday mornings," Ristic said. "I just don't want to go to school."

Catching some zzz's, junior Joseph Bertucci sleeps outside the biology room during third hour as his class goes over a test he missed. "Monday mornings are not a good way to start a school week," Bertucci said.



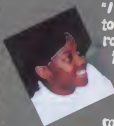
Annie Hecht



Preparing for class, sophomore Andrew Augustyn and junior Crystal Wilcox relax by their lockers. "It's hard to get up and get yourself going on Mondays," Augustyn said, "but once you get yourself going, the rest just comes."

Speak Your Mind....

How do you feel about Monday mornings?



"I motivate myself to get out of bed by rolling over and falling off the bed."

- Ebonye Jenkins, freshman

"It's really hard to get up because over the weekend I got up at 11 or 12. Mondays are usually just not good days at all."

- Abigail Forbes, senior



"When I get up on Monday, I think, 'I can't wait to come home and take a nap.'"

- Heather Cape, senior



"I get out of bed when I think of college. If I don't go to school now it'll mess up college and college affects the rest of my life."

- Robert Jensen, junior



—Hard weekend? Time to wake up. It's another...

Manic Monday

—Five more minutes please. It's Monday morning, and all you want is a couple more minutes of sleep.

"The first thing I think when the alarm goes off is 'I don't want to get up,'" junior Marc Brady said. "I get out of bed when I think about taking a hot shower."

After being out during the weekend, students needed to find a way to motivate themselves to get up and out of bed on Monday morning.

"Lunch motivates me to get through the day," sophomore Mike Serbentas said.

While most students had trouble just getting up for school, the swim team had

to get up for a 5:45 a.m. practice on Monday mornings.

"I don't mind [the early practices] because you get in the sync of things," junior Veronica Solis said.

Most students didn't enjoy getting up early on Monday after a weekend of staying out late and sleeping in, but senior Chuck Lau had a positive attitude about Monday mornings.

"Mondays are usually good for me because they're a new start," Lau said. "Weekends are a time for work, a time for play. Then Mondays are when I see my school friends, the people I don't hang out with on the weekends." —Susan Huss

Century in Review

*Compiled by Candice Peters

1900's

- First Rose Bowl game is played (1902)
- Wright Brothers achieve flight in the Flyer (1903)
- Griffith High school opens (1907)
- Teddy Bears are created (1903)
- Town of Griffith is established (1904)
- Henry Ford introduces Model T (1908)

1910's

- Oreo cookies are created (1912)
- Titanic hits iceberg and sinks (1912)
- Congress designated Mother's Day as second Sunday in May (1913)
- Sneakers are introduced (1917)
- U.S. enters World War I (1917)
- Daylight Savings Time is first adopted (1918)

1920's

- First commercial radio broadcast is aired (1920)
- First television set is demonstrated in New York (1928)
- Stock market crash and beginning of the Great Depression (1929)
- First talking motion pictures (1927)
- Road tests and drivers licenses first required in the U.S. (1928)

1930's

- "Star-Spangled Banner" becomes official U.S. anthem (1931)
- Amelia Earhart becomes first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic (1932)
- Babe Ruth and Ty Cobb named to the baseball hall of fame (1936)
- First drive-in movie theater opens in New Jersey (1933)
- The Japanese attack Pearl Harbor (1941)

1940's

- First Reflector is published (1941)
- First nuclear weapons are used (1945)

Odd Products invented in this century

- Lava Lamps
- Chia Pets
- Sea Monkeys
- Salad Shooter
- Singing Doormats
- Wood Rings

*opinion of the Reflector staff



FASHION TRENDS

of the 21st century

1920's

Flappers, gangsters, women wore bell shaped hats called a cloche, men wore straw hats called a boater, tall and top hats "Roaring Twenties"

1940's

letter sweaters, high top sneakers, plaid, plain dresses "World War II Era"

1960's

go-go boots, short skirts, silk shirts "Hippies Era"

1980's

big hair, fluorescent colors, M.C. Hammer pants, bright colors "Grunge Era"

1930's

Zoot suits, oxford baggies, cotton dresses, hats very popular "Depression Era"

1950's

poodle skirts, saddle shoes, jeans and t-shirts "Rock and Roll Era"

1970's

bell bottoms, polyester, platform shoes "Flower Power Era"

1990's

cargo pants and khakis, brand name 3/4 sleeves, butterfly clips "Anything Goes"



1950's

1960's

1970's

1980's

1990's

2000's

2010's

2020's

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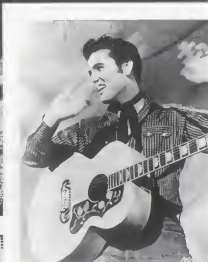
4010's

4020's

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4050's



U.S. Marines of the 28th Regiment of the Fifth Division raise the American flag atop Mt. Suribachi, Iwo Jima on Feb. 23, 1945. This was one of the bloodiest, most famous battles of World War II against Japan; The giant German Hindenburg crashes to Earth on May 6, 1937. The disaster killed 36 people which ended regular passenger service by the lighter-than-air ships; The U.S. space shuttle Challenger explodes shortly after lifting off from Kennedy Space Center on Jan. 28, 1986. All 7 crew members were honored with burials at Arlington National Cemetery; Astronaut E. "Buzz" Aldrin Jr. poses for a photograph beside the U.S. flag deployed on the moon during the Apollo 11 mission on July 20, 1969. With this event America beat the Soviet Union in the race for moon exploration; Elvis Presley is shown with his Gibson J-200 guitar in a 1957 MGM studio publicity photo. The Elvis empire grew from live performances, records, films and a grand estate called Graceland; Microsoft Chairman Bill Gates sits on a stage during a video portion of the Windows 95 Launch Event Aug. 24, 1995. Gates is considered one of the world's richest private citizens today with an estimated worth of \$90 billion; Richard Nixon says goodbye as he boards a helicopter after resigning the Presidency Aug. 9, 1974. Nixon was the first president to resign the nation's highest office; U.S. Army troops stand in the trenches in France during World War I on June 28, 1914; Brainstorming baseball buddies, Babe Ruth and Lou Gehrig posing in Oct. 12, 1927; Orville Wright is at the controls of "Flyer" with his brother Wilbur Wright as the plane makes its first flight at Kitty Hawk, N.C. on Dec. 17, 1903. The Wright brothers launched the age of aviation, making flight a reality after centuries of fascination. *pictures provided by the Associated Press

top twenty

most influential people of the century

Emmeline Pankhurst	Che Guevara
Helen Keller	Marilyn Monroe
Charles Lindergh	The Kennedys
Bill Wilson	Muhammad Ali
The American G.I.	Bruce Lee
Jackie Robinson	Pele
Anne Frank	Harvey Milk
Billy Graham	Mother Teresa
Edmund Hillary	Princess Diana
Rosa Parks	Andrei Sakharov

source: TIME Magazine

Bill Clinton becomes second president to undergo impeachment process (1998-99)

Internet revolutionizes communications (1995)

Scientists estimate one million Americans have HIV (1994)

Persian Gulf war begins (1991)

Michael Jordan leads the Chicago Bulls to the first of five NBA championships in 6 years (1991)

1990's

Space shuttle Challenger explodes killing all 7 crew members (1986)

Berlin Wall falls (1989)

Disney World opens Epcot Center (1982)

JFK assassinated (1964)

U.S. enters Vietnam War (1965)

Martin Luther King Jr. assassinated (1968)

Woodstock festival is first held (1969)

Wait Disney World opens (1971)

Beatles first perform in America on the "Ed Sullivan Show" (1964)

First Super Bowl is played (1967)

Neil Armstrong walks on the moon (1969)

Watergate scandal unfolds and Nixon resigns (1974)

Boombax is invented (1980)

Anticipating the turn of the century, junior Justin Grimmer, Marc Brady and Stephanie Bridegroom chat at a party at Veronica Solis' house. Solis has had a New Year's party for the past 2 years. "I had a party the first year because no one else did, and this year everyone begged me to so I did," Solis said.



Victor Sendejas

Panic Attack

Top 5 things that scared people the most

1. Missile attacks from Russia
2. End of the world
3. No electricity
4. Riots
5. Planes crashing

Survey of 75 GHS students



Selena Saldana



Jeremy Martin

Resting after an intense game of Twister, sophomores Vanessa Rodriguez, Nathan Laird, Shannon Churitch and Joseph Sharp relax and talk. They attended a party at sophomore Jeremy Martin's house where they watched the Millenium around the world.

Partying at senior Eric Salczynski's house, seniors Marissa Villaseñor, Ayumi Yoshino, Victoria Anderson and sophomore Adam Brownfield read their New Year's fortunes. "We all crowded around the TV and watched the countdown which was really fun," Anderson said.



Amie Hecht



Living it up, juniors Hannah Zemke, Jillian Tsirtsis, Kimberly Frederick, Jullann Gajewski, and Tyler Radtke sing karaoke at a fellow junior Sarah Govett's house. The five have been friends since seventh grade, and have celebrated New Year's together since freshman year.

Ending
the century

With a Bang

It's the last New Year's Eve of the century, and most students wanted to celebrate it with their friends. Some chose to have small gatherings, while others wanted to ring the New Year in with a bang. Some students even went out of state to see the turn of the new millennium.

According to senior, Mirjana Vlahovic, spending the evening in Chicago was a nice way to spend New Year's.

"It was very different than anything I've ever done before," Vlahovic said. "There were thousands of people and everyone was dressed up. I'd definitely go again."

While some students enjoyed going

away for the millennium celebration, others would have rather stayed home with their friends.

"I went to Las Vegas," junior Justin McDonald said, "But I wanted to spend New Year's Eve hanging out with my friends and having some fun."

Seeing smiling, energetic people is what made junior Amber Piekarczyk's New Year memorable.

"When I went dancing in Chicago, everyone was smiling, and full of energy," Piekarczyk said. "It was the best way for me to spend the millennium, and I wouldn't have changed it for the world."

~Brandi Harveth and Julie Rutledge

Speak Your Mind....

What's your New Year's resolution?



"I'm going to try to get better grades because I want to get into a good college."

-Kyle Domazet, junior

"I'm going to appreciate the better things in life and try to live by the motto: get rowdy and have fun."

-Jernetta McDaniel, senior



"I'm going to try to be a better brother because I always pick on my little sister."

-Matthew Gonzalez, sophomore

"I decided to stop drinking pop, because it is bad for you."

-Kristen Buehler, freshman



High school: the place
where we'll be...

Asking freshman Darrick Tucker to hold her books, freshman Tamika Fultz pulls on her sweatshirt. The two always talk to each other after third and fifth hours. "He's a person I can always clown with," Fultz said.

Friends forever

People to hang out with. People that support decisions. People that care. The word 'friends' means different things to everyone, but many people don't stop to think how long most friendships last.

"Most friendships break apart because of a lot of 'he-said', 'she-said' trash," junior Lance White said. "People don't like to hear that their friend said something bad about them."

The reasons for having friends range from hang-out buddies to shoulders-to-cry-on to just having someone to talk to.

"[A friend is] someone to tell you secrets to that won't tell other people," senior Meghan Tzitz said.

Even for the best of friends, graduation is a major change in life. People go to college, move away, and have a tendency to change. Not many friendships can take that kind of beating.

"I hope that some of my friends and I will keep in touch," senior Michelle Bagwell said. "But I realize that most of us will grow apart. The way I look at it, I might lose contact with many, but my true friends will be there for me."
~Brianna Bieker

Chatting in the cafeteria with Mae Eichensehr, freshman Michael Gleim stands by the refreshment table. Nearly every day he stopped to talk to her and asked her how her day was going.



Annie Hecht



Annie Hecht

Speak your mind...

What's the best thing about friends?

"Without friends
you'd be all
alone in life."
-Matthew
Euber,
sophomore



"It's fun having
different
friends
and all
their
different
personalities."
-Julie Cadle,
sophomore





Jocelyn Williams

Best Buds

That's what friends are for

After pausing a moment to think, sophomore **Angela Mazur** and junior **Rachel Thomas** look at each other and start to giggle.

"It's the whole mind-reading thing," Mazur explained. "We have the same, sarcastic sense of humor."

The two have been friends for about a year and a half. During this time they've been through a lot.

"She helped me get over my boyfriend breaking up with me," Thomas said. "[But] chemistry is the worst thing we have faced this year. Hopefully we'll survive the torture."



Jeremy Martin



Anne Hecht

Laughing during lunch, sophomore **Steven Flores** and senior **Reina Smith** eat their food. Every morning the two get to school at 7:25 to pick up mail for Margie Keithley and Diane Ritter, family and Consumer Sciences.

Standing at her locker after school, sophomore **Kristen Salczynski** talks with her friend sophomore **Julie Ristic**. They met each other after having a gym class together in eighth grade.

"I think the best thing is having a shoulder to cry on; just venting out your problems to them."

-**Deborah Race**, junior



"I pick my friends by the way they act, how they treat me, and how they treat others."

-**Glenn Cundiff**, freshman

"The best thing about having friends is you have someone to count on."

-**Judy Vanselow**, sophomore



Struggling to escape a tackle, junior Jack Johnson, tries to get away from junior Joshua York as juniors Adam Stout and Nicolas Kasbohm try to help. The group got together often to play football after school.



Victor Sendejia

Hangin' Out

Top 5 places to go for fun

1. Showplace 16
2. The Daily Perk
3. Friend's house
4. Burger King
5. Southlake Mall

Survey of 75 GHS students



Kelli Schuen



Matt Fliter

Deciding what to eat, juniors Sarah Handley, Justin Sidor, Brandi Harveth, Mark Forster and Gregory Bowers look over the menu. China Koon is owned by senior Chuck Lau's parents and was a popular choice for lunch on half days.

Taking a breather, seniors Cassandra White, Jaci Bolsega, Vanessa Hooper and Nicole Hart relax before going to class. The four liked to sit and talk there every morning when they got back from exploratory teaching.



Angie Hecht



Let's go have some fun at
some of our favorite...

Hangouts

According to students they barely have any free time between doing homework, playing sports, and having jobs. Their lives are just too busy to have time to relax. But when the chance does come up for a little fun, there are plenty of places they go to.

One thing that is popular among students is going to the sports events at school. Freshman Nicole Gill said she likes to go to the home football games and then afterwards to Burger King.

"After Burger King my friends and I all go to someone's house for a bon fire," Gill said. "It's a lot of fun because it's just something we always do."

Some students go out, but not anywhere in particular. Junior Courtney Shropshire said she

likes to go out cruising around and looking for guys with her friend junior **Angela Serrato**.

"We always have such a good time," Shropshire said. "We like to act all crazy and yell funny stuff at people."

Others chose not to go out at all. Sophomore **Ryan Zolcak** said he usually just hangs out at a friend's house.

"All my friends and I have a lot of fun just goofing off at someone's house," Zolcak said, "although sometimes we'll go out to eat or to the movies."

Although many students said they didn't have just one hangout, to most of them it didn't matter where they went. As long as they were with their friends, they had fun.

~Kellie Sternberg

Enjoying the music, sophomores **Kathryn Ramsey** and **Ashley Smelko** have some fun at The Daily Perk. Many students went there to hear their friends' bands play.

Speak Your Mind....

What is your favorite restaurant to chow down at?

"I like eating at Joe's Crab Shack because it's like a nightclub. It's so cool." -**Elena Rodriguez**, freshman



"I like to go to Applebees because it has awesome food at reasonable prices."

-**Anthony Potesta**, junior



"TG/Fridays is a good place to eat because it has good food and its fun."

-**Nichole Dameron**, sophomore



"I like Olive Garden because their salad and breadsticks are delicious." -**Mirza Damjanovic**, senior



Speak Your Mind...

How do you feel about dating?



"I think that you should have fun in high school and not have to worry about a relationship."
- Kyle Krause, senior

"When you like someone a lot you want to be with them all the time."
- Lisa Carroll, junior



"I think that dating is cool when you have a steady girlfriend because you always have someone to go out with."
- Nate Spitz, sophomore



"It is hard to be in a real serious relationship at our age."
- Joshua Olson, junior



"Being in a long relationship is good because you have someone always there for you."
- Jon Melendez, freshman



Annie Hecht

Hearts apart

Dating a student from another school

Imagine dating someone but not getting to see them everyday or even sometimes for a couple days. That is the case with sophomore Neil Dimos who is dating Laura Sims, a former GHS student who now attends Andean.

"It's hard dating someone from another school cause we don't get to see each other as much," Dimos said. Even though it is hard to find time for each other, they manage and find time, like at her Halloween party in October.



Eric Sakemski

Hand in hand juniors Brandt Harveth and Justin Sidor leave Bennigan's after a Friday night football game. "I go to every home football game to be supportive and watch her perform and afterwards we go out with our friends," Sidor said.



Mark Flier

Catching up the latest news, seniors **Shannon Sheffield** and **Brandon Hoshaw** read the paper in the library. They spend lunch in the library everyday. "He is really funny and makes me laugh and he is always there for me," Sheffield said.

A fine
line between...

Butterflies & Love

He pokes you in your side; she brushes your hair with her fingers; you make each other laugh. You feel those butterflies every time you catch a glimpse of him or her in the hall. Is it love?

Most GHS relationships start out as a friendship first. It builds from there, and whatever happens, happens. Whether it's the physical attraction that pulls you in, or the emotional bond that bites you with the love bug, dating is bound to come up. But what brings dating into the lives of students at our school?

"It's someone to hang out with and have fun with," freshman **Christopher Alexander** said, "but being a freshman, it is hard because we can't drive, so we usually go out in groups."

No matter if you're catching the latest flick or grabbing a bite to eat with that special someone, time

is an issue. When you're doing that Algebra homework, playing a soccer game, and working all in the same week, there's not too much time to go out with your significant other. Every minute of our busy complicated lives counts.

"It's hard being in high school and dealing with a serious relationship," junior **Elizabeth Guzman** said. "There is too much going on in our lives at this time."

Relationships are needed in the lives of some students though. Senior **Matthew Sherry** thinks relationships are good because you always have that person there for you. He believes if you like someone, then you should go for it.

"If you really care about someone, then there is no reason why you shouldn't be with that person," Sherry said.

~Julie Rutledge



Amie Heston

Helping each other out, junior **Michael Jones** and sophomore **Ailana Borden** get their books ready after school. "We have been together for a long time and are still really happy," said Jones. Jones gives Borden a ride home from school everyday.

Saying their last goodbyes, seniors **Jason Lebata** and **Melissa Hart** get ready to go home after school. They have been together since Valentine's Day of their Junior year.

It's not just singers and dancers showing off ...

Dancing their hearts out, seniors Julie Newman and Mirjana Vlahovic perform a hip-hop type of a dance for the show. Vlahovic and Newman started taking hip-hop lessons in Chicago a few months ago.

they've got talent

The majority of the acts in the talent show consisted of singers or dancers, but there were a few acts that had something different about them that stuck out.

Senior Mike Cserenak was in the group that won the miscellaneous category. He along with junior John Jensen performed an improv skit, where they asked the audience for a setting and performed a whole skit off of that. Cserenak and Jensen have been taking Improv Olympic classes in Chicago for over a year. He said that he wanted to be in the talent show because it is an opportunity to perform in front of a larger number of people than is usually possible.

"John and I won (in the talent show) doing a scripted scene and we both love improv, so it was the next natural step," Cserenak said.

Another group that did something a little different was senior Bobby Lassiter and junior Lance White. They performed a Martial Arts demonstration together. White said he wanted

to be in the talent show to help out a good friend and for more experience for next year.

"I chose to do the act I did because it was original and we knew how to do all that stuff," White said. "A lot of people said that they liked our act and they told me I did a really good job."

Senior Metai Ezell performed a crowd pleasing dance along with four of her friends. She said that they did a dance to get the crowd on their feet.

"The audience was great, people were screaming and yelling our names. We even saw people up on their feet dancing, which is what we wanted," Ezell said.

The whole night was full of many great acts and surprises. No matter who the winners were the audience seemed to enjoy the whole event.

"It was a great experience and despite the fact we didn't win, we still had so much fun," Ezell said.

~Candice Peters

Imitating a group of performers, seniors Nancy Robles, Christina Govett, Kara Kmeic, Laura Worley, Lora Melton, and Sarah Bacan performs like NSync and Briney Spears. The "Sweet Six" added a new member (Kmeic) to the group "Hive Five Girls." They also performed NSync last year at the show.



Annie Hecht



Annie Hecht

Speak your mind...

What is it that you like about the talent show?

"All of us (Sweet Six) in my group had a lot of fun. All of our practices were great."

"They were at my house so it made it much better for me."

~Laura Worley, senior



"I really appreciate how it gives people the opportunity to focus on their diverse talents, other than athletic and academic ability."

~Wastasha Cortez, junior





John Melendez



John Melendez

Doing his impression of our principal Linda Einsele, senior Jason Tomcsi has the audience rolling in laughter from his portrayal of our leader. Tomcsi was the vice-president of student council and has hosted the last two shows.

Singing "Don't Be Stupid, You Know I Love You" by Shania Twain, sophomore Marissa Sills competes in the second annual Talent Show.

"I was really nervous to perform in front of the whole student body, but when I got out there I was so excited because I love performing and singing," Sills said.

And the winners are...

Best of Show category

"Sweet 6"

Sang "Bye, Bye, Bye" from N'Sync with a little "Oops, I did it again" by Brinley Spears

Laura Worley as Justin Timberlake, Nancy Robles as Lance Bass, Sarah Bacan as Joey Fatone, Lora Mellon as J.C. Chasez, Sera Govett as Chris Kirkpatrick and Kara Krmec as Brinley Spears

Wise(G)neous

"The Tourists"

Performed an Improv skit
Mike Cservanek and John Jensen

Dance

"Scared for Life"

Julie Newman and Mirjana Vlahovic

Sing

"Nouveau"

Diana Balas, Julie Newman, and Mirjana Vlahovic



Annie Hecht

Singing in an unusual voice, freshman Shayne Dapshis shows off his ability to sing like Gonzo from the Muppet Babies. "I discovered that I could do it in seventh grade from screaming at the dinner table one day. I did it in the talent show because it would be something to make people laugh," Dapshis said.

"I like how it allows anyone to show their skills, regardless of what it is. I wish it wasn't judged though and that it was just a show."

-John Jensen, junior

"I liked the fact that students got to show their talents. I did it because I like dancing and to help out my friends in their act."

-Claunetta Guise, sophomore

"It gives the kids the opportunity to show off their talents to the community. I think students will enjoy the entertainment from their friends."

-Sherry Kayden, attendance

Here's the Facts

Dates

March 4 7:30p.m.
March 5 3:00p.m.

Directors

Jason Tomcsi
Mike Cservenak
General Assistant: Diana Ballas

Plot

Movie star, Monica Welles, playwright Alex Dennison's fiancée, mysteriously commits suicide after her show was a flop. Exactly one year later Alex gathers the cast from that show in the same theater to read through his new play. But is it just a rehearsal or is it something more? And why is Alex's new play so uncomfortably close to the truth? Did Monica kill herself or was she murdered? Alex suspects foul play and will do anything to prove his theory.

Cast of Characters

Alex Dennison	-John Jensen	Man in the Auditorium	-Scott Negrete
Monica Welles	-Marissa Villaseñor	Sally Bean	-Jaci Bolesga
Bella Lamb	-Andjela Subotic	Loretta	-Jaclyn Gerdes
Lloyd Andrews	-Steve Eaton	Emie	-Bart LaBounty
Karen Daniels	-Julie Purgert	Santoro	-Bill Barriga
Leo Gibbs	-Jason Lundquist	Male Officer	-Andrew Augustyn
David Matthews	-Eric Salczynski	2nd Man	-Justin Grimmer



Victoria Anderson

Waking sure she looks good to go onstage, senior **Marissa Villaseñor** sets her hair in rollers to make her look like a movie star. This was the first non-comedy done for the student directed play since *The Diary of Anne Frank* in 1997.

Trying to get away from Mr. Dennison, members of the cast, senior **Eric Salczynski**, juniors **Scott Negrete**, **Julie Purgert**, senior **Andjela Subotic**, sophomore **Steven Eaton** and junior **Jason Lundquist** express astonishment that there is a gun pulled on them. "It was a welcome change for me to go from a comedy to a mystery. My character (Man in the Auditorium) was really fun to portray, I liked playing the killer," Negrete said.



Victoria Anderson

Getting down to business, junior **John Jensen** pulls out his gun to threaten his cast mates. At the end of the play, the directors assured everyone that the firearm that was used was completely safe.



Victoria Anderson



Victoria Anderson



—No rolling in the aisles with laughter this time, now it's time to figure out...

who dunnit?

Laughs were scarce for the annual student directed play, but mystery was in. A new approach was taken with the play this year.

Junior John Jensen who played Alex Dennison said that the directors (seniors Jason Tomcsi and Michael Cservenak) wanted to break away from the traditional shows that have been done at GHS.

"It was a really interesting play to work with," Jensen said. "I didn't care if we did a comedy or not, I like working with both."

One concern was how the audiences would perceive the change. Freshman Jaclyn Gerdes played Loretta in her second play. She said that she heard a lot of good things about it from other people who had seen it.

"Most students told me that they thought it was cool that the play didn't reveal the murderer until the end," Gerdes said. "They all really liked the flashbacks too."

Junior William Barriga, who played Santoro the delivery man, said that the play got good reviews but it was just kind of hard to get a reaction from them at first.

"The whole cast enjoyed doing the mystery. It always kept us interested," Barriga said. "It was my first time being in a play and I enjoyed the whole atmosphere immensely."

Although it was a change from what the audience is used to, the cast and directors wanted to test it out.

"We wanted to showcase real acting rather than cheap laughs," Jensen said.

Gathered together on the set of the victim's apartment, senior Andjela Subotic, juniors John Jensen and Scott Negrete, sophomore Steve Eaton and juniors Julie Purgert and Jason Lundquist talk about what could have happened to her. The cast only had about a month and a half to prepare for the play.

Speak Your Mind....

What did you think about the play?



"I liked the play, especially the blackout and the gun"-Jacob Laird, senior

"I liked this play because it was different than all the other ones. It was a cool approach to do a mystery."

-Kellie Sternberg, junior



"I do the lighting for the plays and compared to the others, this one was real good for the amount of practice they had. The directors were cool too."

-Danny Vessel, sophomore



"The play was written very well and there was superb acting. It took a different approach to confuse the audience, and I really enjoyed it"-Rachel Grimmer, freshman



Getting down on the dance floor, senior Christopher Hill is cheered on while entertaining a group of senior boys. "No one else was doing it so I had to," Hill said. "It's in my blood to entertain people. I'm the wild one of the bunch."

Showing off her dance moves, senior Jernetta McDaniel entertains seniors Joshua Handley and Kyle Krause on the dance floor. "As you can see, Prom is the place to officially back that thang up!" McDaniel said.



photo courtesy of Prestige Photography



photo courtesy of Prestige Photography



photo courtesy of Prestige Photography



Sandra Fry

Dancing the night away in each others arms, seniors Amanda Grcevlch and Eric Salczynski enjoy their last high school dance together. This is the third dance the two have attended together. They first met on yearbook staff and have been dating for over a year. "This was the most fun I've ever had a dance even though I was sad because I knew it was my last dance," Grcevlch said.



photo courtesy of Prestige Photography

Ceasing themselves down the river, juniors Brandi Harveth and Candice Peters struggle to keep afloat as juniors Angelina Alvarez, Justin Grimmer and Justin Sidor look on. Turkey Run was one of the most popular retreats for students to spend the rest of their Prom weekend.

Dancing down the line, juniors Stephanie Beige and Jason Alexander strut their stuff. Beige and Alexander have been dating for about three years. "I didn't really care about winning because I was on court with all my friends, but I was happy to win with Jason," Beige said.

Get down tonight

Date, Time, Place

May 5, 2000 7p.m.

Helene Center Merrillville

Sponsored by

Junior Class
Council

Theme

"You've Got a Way with Me"

Colors

Gold and Ivory

Music

Dr. Soundsgood

Tickets sold

177 couples

5 singles

Court

Queen: Stephanie Beige

Candidates: Juliann

Gajewski, Andrea

Melendez, Michelle Prewitt,

Breanne Steagall

Kings: Jason Alexander

Candidates: Matthew

Callender, Nicolas

Kasbohm, Josh Moon,

Brad Sowinski



— Oh where, Oh where have
the.....

Garters gone

Although the dance night was a success there were a few flaws that put a damper on the evening. One thing that was missing from the night was the time set apart where the boys take off the girls' garters. For years it has been a tradition at Prom to play a certain song that everyone knows to be the garter song. The absence of it didn't go over that well with the students.

Senior Angela Parent was very upset about the ordeal. She said it ruined a tradition we have at the dances.

"I was so mad, I mean why did I even waste my money on buying one if my date couldn't even take it off," Parent said.

Most students didn't understand if the point of not having it. Junior Abigail Greco said if someone thinks it is offensive then they don't have to take part in it.

"We're only in high school once so we should be able to have fun at Prom, it seems like lately a lot of the fun is being taken away from us," said Greco.

Junior Nicholas Kasbohm said that taking it away was a ridiculous. He said that the tradition

shouldn't disrupt tradition like that.

"If banning the garter song was supposed to stop me from taking the garter off with my teeth, it didn't work," Kasbohm said. "We [all the students] just found our own song," said Kasbohm.

Terry Swetky, English, said the garter tradition was inappropriate for teenagers to take place in because it intimates sexual activity.

"I think it is an excellent idea to ban the garter activity, regardless of the student's reactions," Swetky said. "The students are here to be guided to the appropriate behavior according to adult standards, not teenage standards."

Although the majority of the students were upset from not having the garter tradition, most said it didn't mean that the dance was terrible.

Junior Christopher Rousseau said that he was looking forward to the garters, but "no matter what, dances are still fun."

"It did make the dance a little less fun, but it didn't totally ruin it," Rousseau said. "I still had a great time at Prom."

— Candice Peters

Speak Your Mind...

What do you like better, Prom or Turn-about and why?



"Prom was more fun and less stressful because I didn't have to worry about leaving my date to go dance or something, because I didn't have a date." — Caryn Miller, senior

"I like Prom much better than Turn-about because it's a whole weekend thing." — Lindsay Chapa, senior



"I think Prom is way better than Turn-about because it's just juniors and seniors there. Also the girls have prettier dresses on." — Brandon Bruce, junior

"I liked Prom a lot better because you get to spend the whole weekend with your friends rather than just one night." — Elizabeth Dash, junior



"I liked Prom a lot, because it was more organized so it made everything so much better." — Kyle Wann, sophomore

Speak Your Mind...

What are your plans for the future?

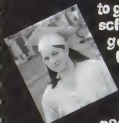
"I plan to go to IU and study physical therapy. I wouldn't mind if I could play basketball in college and I'm definitely going to continue in ceramics because I really love it." -Demetrios Georgis, senior



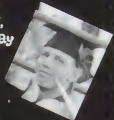
"I'm going to the Universal Technical Institute for automotive. I want to be a mechanic. I'm going to college to make a better living." -Troy Damron, senior



"In a few years I plan to go to a culinary arts school in Chicago to get my degree in bakery, then I want to own my own bakery. I want to be a professional pastryist at my own bakery." -Jennifer McQueary, senior



"I am attending Cornerstone University in Grand Rapids, MI, where I will also play basketball. After college I would like to be a high school teacher in the Social Studies Department." -Jared Pierson, senior



"I'm moving to Florida next year so if I go to college I'm going to take a year off. Right now I think I'm just going to work at Bennigans." -Lauren Beift, senior



Matt Flutz



Cortey Hecht



Matt Flutz

Throwing off their hats in celebration a group of seniors show off their enthusiasm to be graduated. This is the first time in six years that the graduation ceremony was held outside.

Receiving his diploma, senior Michael Bakker shakes hands with Superintendent William Gall. Gall took turns with the other administrators to pass out the diplomas.

Calling out the names of the graduates, Principal Linda Einsele lets senior Derek Blythe know it's his turn. Students were just handed the envelope for their diploma and they had to go to the fieldhouse after the ceremony to pick up the real thing.

— All this hassle for

The Tassel

It's been four long years of high school that the seniors had to endure. Now many give a sigh of relief but can't really believe that the end is actually here. To get where they are now, there were many obstacles and memorable moments that kept them on their feet and brought them closer to "G-Day."

Senior Claire Hudacin said there were many funny moments that happened throughout the years it's hard to name just one.

"The best was going to state sophomore year and eating Burger King the whole way down there. Now I can't even look at Burger King," Hudacin said. "Another very funny time was at Prom senior year there was a raccoon growling at Nick Crawford and he started screaming and we all jumped up on

the picnic tables."

Senior Joshua Banning was relieved about graduating, but also sad because he was going to miss everyone.

"I'm really going to miss being able to go to all the games and just hanging out with my friends whenever I want," Banning said.

The long awaited moment of graduation was here so now the time has come for the seniors to move on from high school and focus on what their future holds.

Senior Matthew Rusch said that he was excited to be moving on with his life. He also gave some advice to the underclassmen.

"Have as much fun as possible while you're here because life is too short."

—Candice Peters



Cores Hecht



Matt Finley

Listening to one of the speeches given at the ceremony, senior Dana Zukanovich is seated next to the seat that was in memory of senior Nicholas Taylor. The seat was requested by many of Taylor's closest friends. After the ceremony forty black and gold balloons were also released in his memory.

Senior Laura Worley sings the National Anthem at the beginning of the ceremony. "It's exciting to be graduating. Our class is unique because we're all so close to each other," Worley said. "It was a lot of fun singing the Anthem, it was a good way to end high school."

Graduation Info

Songs

"I could not ask for more"
—Edwin McCain

Valedictorian

Susan Huss

Wells

"It's about that Time"

Flower
Snapdragon

Colors

yellow and orange

Salvadorian

Mira Damjanovic

One by one, students filed into their first hour classes at the beginning of each week. But instead of the usual "Good Morning Griffith High School. These are your daily announcements," students listened as the Mission Statement was read. Then everyone stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance. This Monday morning ritual began after Winter Break, and continued for the rest of the year.

*Class*es full of challenging concepts and homework often times scared off many students, but there were some brave souls who entered them. Students were also honored for their hard work during the second semester by the "Student of the Month" award each department chose.

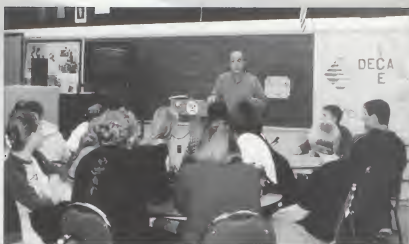
At many times, it seemed as if the year would never get any easier. But classes such as textiles and clothing, interior decorating, journalism, Spanish, the biology classes, and the art classes started going on field trips, which lessened some of the building stress many students felt.

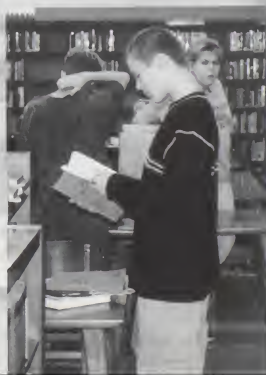
A plethora of new teachers were hired this year, including Cory Moyer, band; Thomas Deskovich, physics and chemistry; Diane Ritter, family and consumer science; Michelle Duffala, business; and Jack Gabor, advanced physical conditioning and health. Students had to adjust to all these changes, and many had almost a full schedule of new faces.

Time went by faster than ever, especially for the seniors. By the time the sun came out and the weather warmed up, there was only about a month left of school. The end of the year could also be overheard in conversations between fellow advanced biology students, where a hurt elbow was now called an injured "olecranal" and an aching shoulder was a "dislocated scapula." At the end of the year, students left the school with knowledge that would help them excel in college, a job, or for the underclassmen, their next few years of high school.

~Jessica Everhart

Clockwise from top left: Students listen to Thom Howell, ICE instructor, in the DECA room. Goofing around, sophomore Stefanie Roznowski hides under the vibraphone. Senior Shawn Zolcak examines a specimen on a slide and records his observations during his advanced biology class. Freshman Justin Hopkins browses through a periodical in the library. Holding up his pet snake, junior Joshua Swentzel shows the basic biology classes how the snake moves. Big picture: Showing their patriotism, senior Jacqueline DeYoung, along with her fellow classmates, recites the pledge at the beginning of a Monday morning.





Lecturing her Spanish II students, **Rosa Cosmay** goes over a lesson. Cosmay taught all of Irma Coddington's Spanish classes from September through December.

Sporting a leather jacket, **Matthew Elder**, U.S. history, performs a little dance. Elder was dressed in clothes that were popular in the fifties because he was teaching about the '50s and rock and roll.



Annie Hecht



Kelli Schoon

Cadet Teaching

Senior **Vanessa Hooper** is a cadet teacher at Franklin, where she teaches two first grade classes. "I love being a cadet teacher because it really has showed me what being a teacher is all about. It has made me more responsible. I love how I am a big part in the kid's learning experience," Hooper said. "It's great when you know you've really taught someone something." In the future Hooper would like to go into teaching, and although she is still unsure as to what grade she wants, she wants to stay in the elementary level.

What do you like? about student teachers?

"I like how they are closer to our age and more on our level. They try to make things exciting and still educational." **Michelle Prewitt-junior**

"Miss Leiser was really passionate about English and she made us think about who we are." **Krysten Fane-sophomore**

"Their new techniques they use and also they are young students too so they know what it's like to have homework and jobs." **Lance White-junior**



Annie Hecht



Annie Hecht



Student teachers

trying to perfect their teaching skills

For the teachers of GHS, having a student teacher is a lot of help for them. But some students either like the idea of having a student teacher or they don't because of the mix of experiences they've had with them in the past.

According to sophomore **Allison Banta**, she thinks that it's good for the student teacher, because they need the experience of teaching.

"But for the students it gets a little hard or difficult to understand their ways of teaching," Banta said.

Junior **Stephanie Bridegroom** also thinks that having a student teacher is good because it gives them a hands on approach and actual interaction with students.

"On the other hand, sometimes the

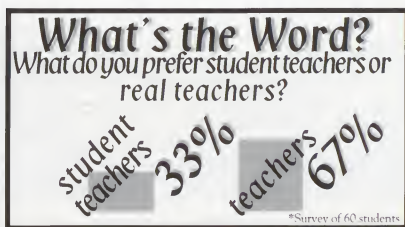
students may have a difficult time in adjusting to the new teacher and the teacher may also have a hard time adjusting or cannot handle the class and then poor grades result," Bridegroom said.

According to senior **Susan Huss** having a student teacher was a nice change of pace.

"Mr. Elders [government] did things differently than Mr. Pickett. Class was more laid-back. It was nice to have someone closer to our age since he could relate to us. He was nervous at the beginning, but he loosened up," Huss said.

Most students would agree that having a student teacher is a nice change and a good learning experience for both.

~Kristen Buehler and Kellie Sternberg



Watching the class, student teacher **Kathleen Leiser**, teaches a sophomore English class. "I like student teachers because they are very willing to help anyone," sophomore **Thomas Krown** said.

Practicing safety, junior Craig Kovera welds some metal. Kovera was in welding class where every day they welded metal into whatever they wanted.



Kelli Schwan

What's the best thing you've learned at the career center?

"The best thing that I have learned is how to be an entrepreneur and how to operate a business." **Matt Calhoun-junior**



"Basically just learning all about little kids and how to take care of them." **Amie Kielbasa-senior**



"The best thing I have learned is basically how to weld metal into some really cool things." **Craig Decker-junior**



Kelli Schwan

Career Center Outstanding Students

Cosmetology

Shauna Tulba

Building Services

Ray Brines
Blake Morris

Business Info Data

Kasheena Green

Auto Body

Sal Aguilar

Business Trades

Kevin Berger

Opening a computer program, junior Kasheena Green gets ready to do some work. Green was in the business class where they learned how to make flyers, brochures and newsletters.

Working on a car, seniors Jacob Johnson, Bret Matthews and Aaron Aloia go over mission control devices. "I like working on cars," Matthews said. "Last week we changed the whole engine in my car."



Kelli Schwan



Kelli Schwan



Chopping an onion, senior **Eric Scott** prepares food in the culinary arts class. The students were able to prepare food for parties. "I like this class because I want to be a chef because I like cooking food," Scott said.



Kelli Schoon

Spreading some glue around, senior **Jeff Carpenter** prepares to lay down some carpet. Carpenter was in the building services class. There were 36 boys and only ten girls who attended the career center.



Kelli Schoon

Rubbing some lotion on a foot, junior **Holly Ziemniak** gives senior **Heather Rivera** a pedicure in cosmetology class. There was a total of eight girls from Griffith in the cosmetology class.



Career center

Providing hands-on learning experiences

Most students don't start practicing their career choice until after they graduate college and find a job, but now students are able to get hands on experience without even having to finish high school by going to the career center. The career center is a place where students go in the morning and then they arrive back at school for 4th hour. Students can either drive there themselves or take the bus.

Students are able to do all sorts of different things from working on cars, to preparing food and cutting hair.

Junior **Morgan Bailey** attends the career center where she is studying how to become a chef. She started off doing a lot of small

work in the kitchen in different groups.

"After awhile we got to cook for parties and make food for lunch," Bailey said. "I like going to the career center because I am learning stuff that I actually want to do."

Cosmetology was a popular class that many students took at the career center. Senior **Heather Rivera** has been attending the cosmetology program for two years and she also went once during the summer. According to Rivera the career center is a good learning experience.

"I learned how to cut hair, do styles and perms, do make-up, and give facials," Rivera said. "We also took tests every week over what we learned."

~Kellie Sternberg

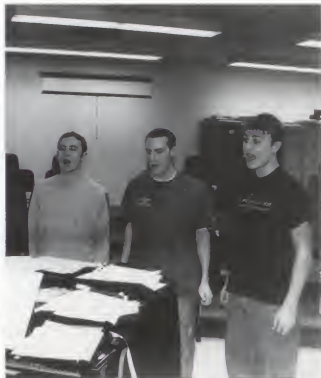
Performing a lab in biology, sophomore Steven Wisniewski and junior Joshua Teague and sophomores Danny Vessell and Kyle Mann test out pH papers. Sandra Beahm's biology room was decorated with colorful posters and projects that students have made.

Trying to make it perfect, seniors Mike Cservenak, Jason Tomcsi and junior John Jensen practice after school for state contest. The choir room's walls were decorated with pictures of previous choir classes.

Completing a quit, seniors Ayumi Yoshino and George Maddox wait for everyone to finish in Bob Hastings' current events class. Hastings decorated his back bulletin board with lots of posters and pictures of historical events and places.



Jeremy Martin



Cortey Hecitt



Keith Schaefer

Tasting a bite, freshman Andrew Raduski, sophomore Stephen Eaton and freshman Joseph Malo try out the pastries they made in gourmet foods class. Each kitchen in the foods room was decorated in a different color.

What is your favorite classroom and why?

"The band room because it has all our accomplishments hanging up in it." **Jamie Sanchez-sophomore**



Annie Hecitt

"I like the J-room because it's more of a laid back classroom and we got to decorate it ourselves."

Candice Peters-junior



"Mr. Hastings' because he has posters, statues and pictures that are fun to look at." **Jamie Campbell-sophomore**



Mike Jones



C lassrooms decorated to display learning environment

Throughout the school year, students are forced to sit in the same classes every day. Some classrooms are plain and dull, which doesn't really get a student excited about going in them. But there are a few classrooms that teachers put a little work into to make them original.

There is one classroom that is very different from the rest. **Margie Keithley's** family and consumer science room is very bright. With its bright blue walls and its colorful red and yellow shelves, the classroom is definitely very original.

Many classrooms are still decorated like they were in the seventies. According to Keithley, her room used to have ugly brown cabinets, and it was very unappealing.

"I chose to decorate the room in those colors because they are my favorite. It's

a known fact that colors affect the way people act," Keithley said. "Most of my students say they like my room."

Senior **Lauren Biehl** agrees with Keithley about her classroom.

"The room feels comfortable because its such a relaxing environment," Biehl said. "It's like being back in grade school."

Most of the teachers don't go as far as painting the walls, but many of them do put up posters and other sorts of things to make their room a bit more interesting. According to sophomore **Kristin Lundquist**, **Irma Coddington's** Spanish room is her favorite classroom.

"The room is colorful and it has a lot of souvenirs from different places so it makes the class more interesting," Lundquist said. —**Kellie Sternberg**

What's the Word?
How do you like classrooms to look?

Decorated 70% Organized 30%

*Survey of 90 GHS students

Playing the little kids game, "Heads, shoulders, knees and toes" the child development class spent the hour listening to Allison Kundrot and Wendy Alkers from Purdue Riley Child Center and playing games to learn how to work with little kids. The room was decorated in primary colors. Students from a previous year had made the curtains using their own hand prints.

Having finished typing the names of students that came to the nurse's office, senior Paul Blahunka relaxes after completing his daily task as nurse Nikki Miklusak's aide.

? Why did you become an aide? ?

"I had dropped a class and I found out the office needed aides so it worked out perfectly." **Deborah Race-junior**



"Mrs. [Lisa] Megquier is really nice and it's also one less class I have to do work in" **Nikki Geffert-junior**

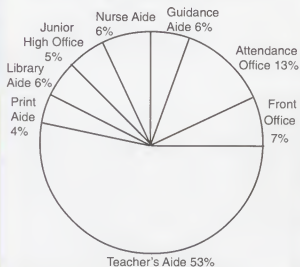


"It is relaxing and you don't have to use your brain plus you don't have to worry about turning in work." **Sara LeCompte-senior**



Annie Hecht

What's the Word? Who are you an aide for?



*Survey of 100 students



Annie Hecht

Helping out in the office, senior Anthony Pruitt takes a message. Pruitt enjoyed being an aide for assistant principal Robert McDermott. "I liked getting the chance to kick back and helping out around the school," Pruitt said.



Annie Hecht



Annie Hecht

Writes collecting attendance during third hour, senior Nicole Hart encounters a bug. Hart brought it to Lisa Bubala's biology classroom because she already had a collection going of bugs she had found in her room.

Being an aide benefits students with learning and fun

Senior Maria Garcia starts the day off in the office. No, she's not in trouble, but she does have work to do.

"I wanted to be an office aide because last summer there was a job I wanted but they said I didn't have enough experience," Garcia said. "I figured this would give me some experience, and I could try getting that job again this summer."

Some students have been aides for more than just one year. Senior William Laviolette has been an aide during his sophomore, junior, and senior years.

"I like being a library aide because it lets me meet a lot of nice people and the teachers treat me with respect," Laviolette said.

Being an aide for two years or more is a commitment few

students are willing to make because of conflicting schedules or the work involved. But those who do stay an aide like the experience.

"Being with the teachers is cool because they treat you different than just being a student," senior Victoria Anderson said.

Laviolette shared a memorable moment when he wasn't treated like just a student.

"During my sophomore year, Ms. [Lawrence] Hawthorne had an extra ticket to see *Beauty and the Beast* at the Chicago Theatre," Laviolette said. "We ate lunch before the show and were able to walk down State Street."

Although students choose to become aides for various reasons, most would agree that being an aide is a balance of work and play.

~Brianna Bieker & Jessica Nieto

Searching for a schedule, guidance aide senior Stacey Schafer tries to accomplish her duty of delivering a pass. Schafer recalls the comical parts of being an aide. "I had to deliver passes and I mixed them up and looked so stupid when I had to go switch them."

Concentrating on the needle, sophomore Ben Weatherford sews in his textiles and clothing class. This year there was 3 boys that took the predominately girl class.

Lifting his plate up sophomore Tre Popa waits patiently as Mrs. Diane Ritter, family and consumer science, cuts a slice of the fruit pinwheel. This was Popa's first time in a cooking class.



TRADING PLACES

Girls, Guys Taking Alternative classes

Sewing and cooking are no longer foreign to guys. The same goes with girls that were in the so called "guy classes" such as Advanced Physical Conditioning (APC) and Computer Application and Design (CAD).

CAD is a computer class that is usually taken by males; however, this year there were two girls in the class.

"It's like an architecture class and I want to be an interior decorator so it helps me with my career plans," senior Claire Hudacin said. "Now I don't have to take the class next year in college."

Some people may think it is odd for guys to be in sewing or cooking, but for some students, they have grown up with these things.

"My mom and brother both know how to sew," freshman Matthew Papa said. "My mom taught me how to and I like it. I'm not going to be a fashion designer or anything, but I like the class."

Physical fitness also became more common among girls this year. For the second year in a row there were enough girls to make a separate APC class just for them.

"More girls, especially in our senior class, are more athletic than girls in the past have been," senior Angela Parent said. "We like to stay in shape and get toned."

Classes that have been geared more towards the female students had to adapt this year when a few males decided to take the class. One of the classes is textiles and clothing.

"I'm going to make a gym bag along with the other two guys when the girls make their tote bags," Papa said.

Reasons for taking classes that gear towards the opposite sex varied but one thing is for sure: trading places is not all that uncommon anymore.

~Colleen Vechey





Why are people taking classes for the opposite sex?

"A lot of things have changed. Guys and girls aren't embarrassed to take those classes anymore."

Karen Kelly, sophomore

"It's a definite place to meet people of the opposite sex."

David Colby, senior

"I don't think some people take the class just to take it. I think some people do it to take a stand for their gender."

Selena Saldana, junior



Lying on the ground, senior **Laura Worley** is helped up by senior **Amber Farr** during their APC class. This was both Worley and Farr's second year in APC.



What's the Word?

Would you take a class designed for the opposite sex?

84% **yes**
16% **no**

Survey of 100 students

Clicking the mouse, senior **Eric Salczynski** works at his computer during his *Reflector* hour. Although there hasn't been a male editor in more than five years, Salczynski served as co-editor in chief along with senior **Jessica Everhart**.

Debugging his program, senior **Justin Falk** tries to find where he made a mistake. Falk, who is interested in a career in computers, has also done some small web page design at home.

Checking the progress of her fruit flies, senior **Jessica Everhart** counts and sorts anesthetized flies. Everhart chose this IR because she is planning to take some genetics classes in college.



Annie Hecht

Future plans

IRs point the way to discovering career options

One problem that nearly all seniors have is deciding what to do after high school. Independent research, also known as an "IR," has been a way for some to discover new talents and abilities or learn more about lifelong interests. Some students have started using IRs as a way to prepare themselves for future careers.

"I plan to get my master's degree in computer engineering," senior **Ramon Rocha** said. Rocha took an IR in advanced computer programming and worked on a role playing game.

Some students have just recently decided their future paths, and others have known what they wanted to do for a little longer.

"I love sewing and I've taken all the sewing classes," senior **Shauna Tulba** said. "I hope to eventually own my own boutique." Tulba, who has been planning a career as a seamstress since

ninth grade, was accepted to the International Academy of Merchandising and Design.

Though not all students have decided on their future occupations, some have done a lot of preparation for their careers.

Senior **Brianne Wilsbach** took IRs in both general art and interior decorating. She is using skills she learned in these classes in hopes of pursuing a career in interior decorating.

"At home, I've been working on a mural in my room," Wilsbach said. "Along the floor is an ocean scene and as you look up toward the ceiling, it's a space scene."

Overall, students who take IRs as a way of career exploration find it very useful. Finding future paths doesn't have to be as difficult as it once was.

~Brianna Bieker



Annie Hecht

What's the Word?
Would you rather take an
IR that is:

Career-
related

53%

Fun

47%

Survey of 77 students

What are the pros and cons of taking an IR?

"It's easy because there's all this free time, but it's hard because there's a lot of work. I'm learning how to manage my time."

Victoria Anderson-senior

"I was hoping to make outfits I could wear at the bank I'm going to work at this summer."

Melissa Petersen-senior

"It gives you freedom to try new stuff and do something different. It's not the normal textbook stuff."

Jason Tomcsi-senior



Filling a tray of stop bath, senior Kelli Schoon prepares for one of her two IRs. She has an IR in art photography and is also on the Edge. Schoon's plan for college is to minor in photojournalism.



ARND BRONKHORST



JESSICA EVERHART

Poking around in a circuit, senior Brandon Fane tests logic states for his IR. Fane took IRs in electricity in physics and the theory of relativity to learn more about these subjects. "Those things really interested me, and there wasn't any class for them," Fane said.

Carefully positioning a needle, senior Nichole Popovich makes a stitch in the communion dress she's making for her sister. "I really like sewing," Popovich said. "At one point, I had really thought about going into it."

JOHN MARRAS

And the answer is...

Students think for themselves in competitions

The three o'clock bell rings, but before sophomore Michael McCarney can go home, he still has more learning left in the day. He chose to be on the Social Studies Superbowl team to learn more about Westward Expansion.

"I was encouraged by teachers and I did it in the junior high level," McCarney said about reasons for joining Superbowl. "I think it was a good experience overall. I suppose actually competing was the enjoyable part, but it takes a lot of work to succeed." McCarney was also captain of his team.

Practices for Superbowl took place after school once a week. Spellbowl, another academic competition, held meetings every day during the fall. Members of both teams agree that it was time well spent.

"I liked the people on the teams,"

senior Andjela Subotic said. "We all got along, and we had fun while we were learning." Subotic was on both the Spellbowl team and the Science Superbowl team.

In the end, all the work was worth it because the Spellbowl team was first in area and fifth in state. The Superbowl teams were as follows: English-third place, Fine Arts-first place, and Math-second place. Social Studies and Interdisciplinary teams did not place.

Junior Kate Higginbotham was on both the Science and English Superbowl teams.

"It was somewhat disappointing in Science because we practiced hard and did much better in the practice meet," Higginbotham said on how she felt about winning.

~Brianna Bieker

What's the Word?

Girls vs Boys: Who's competing?



34 total participants in all competitions. Source: Judith Surwek, academic competitions chairperson

Accepting her award, junior Kellie Sternberg receives an honorable mention for academic story and caption writing at the National Convention in Atlanta. This was Sternberg's first award while being on yearbook staff.



Jessica Everhart



Joseph Martin

Proudly holding his team's trophy, senior **Brandon Fane** watches for the other members of the JETS team. "I'm going to be an engineer so I thought it would be a learning experience," said Fane, who has participated in the program for two years.

Holding their hands high, students compete during the Fine Arts competition of Superbowl. GHS participants went to Merrillville High School, where they placed first against other area schools.

Looking over a problem, seniors **Andjela Subotic** and **Justin Falk** try to figure out the answer for the JETS competition. JETS stands for Junior Engineering Technical Society. GHS won first in area for both the varsity and J.V. teams.



Victoria Anderson



James Everhart

What do you like best about being in an academic competition?

"Ever since freshman year Amanda [Nichols], Paul [Dalach] and I have been a trio, and we win 1st place every year." **Selena Saldana-junior**



"I liked JETS because we worked on the test as a group. Getting first place was pretty sweet, too."

Timothy Thirion-junior



"I've always had a deep love for the arts. You get to learn things that you couldn't learn in the classroom." **Amanda Nichols-junior**



Annie Hecht

Discussing how to spell a word, juniors **Breanne Steagall** and **Selena Saldana** talk about the competition in Indianapolis. "I learned how to spell a lot of weird words," Steagall said.

Applying some vaseline, junior Robert Dumigan and Jim Graff, art, prepare junior Carey Baccino's face for some plaster. Her face was being used as a mold for sculpture class.

Carefully applying color, junior Courtney Ostrowski paints a replica of a Sublime album cover. "I really enjoyed doing it because it was my first painting," Ostrowski said. "I was really proud of it."



Annie Hesch

L

abs and projects

Bringing many frustrations to students

Projects are things that are assigned to students all throughout the year to incorporate the things the teachers are teaching, but to many students doing them causes a lot of headaches.

Sophomore Joseph Tharp was in the middle of making his poster of the heart for Biology 1-2 when he mixed up the valves and chambers and couldn't fix it because he wrote in ink. He had to start the whole thing over the day before it was due.

"I was frustrated because I was up until two in the morning finishing it," Tharp said. "I just felt stupid for making such a time consuming and ignorant mistake."

Labs are also important things that students are constantly doing in class. Even though most of the

time students get to work with their lab partners, sometimes that isn't always a good thing. Sophomore Brandon Powell and his lab partner Joseph Baccino were in the middle of dissecting their worm for Biology 1-2 when they messed up. Baccino was scraping the guts out of their worm and he accidentally cut the worm into many pieces.

"Mrs. [Sandra] Beahm just told us to throw the worm away," Powell said. "We still got a good grade and I was just glad the project was finally over."

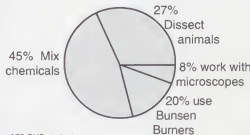
Although projects and labs can cause many frustrations to students, according to most of them, they can also be a good learning experience and some of them can actually turn out to be fun. ~Kellie Sternberg



Annie Hesch

What's the Word?

What is your favorite lab to do?



Survey of 75 GHS students



What is the best project you did this year?

"In French class we had to make commercials for a product. It was fun because it was out of the ordinary."
Tiffany Kender-junior



"I drew a portrait of Nick Crawford in art appreciation and I went all out on it."
Anthony Rodriguez-sophomore



"In Mr. [Matt] Elder's [U.S. History] class we had to make a movie reenacting the Korean War."
Mark Amos-junior



Shaking it, senior Bobby Lassiter does a little dance in Susan Patrick's British Literature class. The class was having an Elizabethan feast and Lassiter was the entertainer.



Anna Hecht



Corey Hecht



Corey Hecht

Working with care, seniors Kristen Collins and Carrie LaBuda concentrate on spreading apart the muscles of their frogs in biology 3-4. The advanced students had to learn all about muscles and take oral quizzes over them.

Being careful, senior Lara Gonzalez works on throwing a pot on the wheel in ceramics class. There were six hours of ceramics, making it one of the most popular electives.

Folding a piece of construction paper, junior David Scheeringa makes a valentine in Irma Coddington's Spanish III class. The Spanish classes displayed their valentines on the back wall.



Anna Hecht

Taking part in a sport at GHS, or any other school, requires major dedication, discipline, and love for the sport. These qualities are what make an athlete. School records were smashed by many different teams. The volleyball team went the farthest in Griffith's history by making it to the regional finals. Nine wrestlers advanced to regionals, marking the most that Griffith had ever sent in one season. Girls' basketball made it farther than any Griffith basketball team in history when they made it to the semi-state finals. Senior **Tim Krebs** made it to state for swimming for the second time and was touched out of first place by one-hundredth of a second. Also sophomore **Teanna Sutton** became the first girl swimmer ever to make it to state. The four by one relay team in track advanced to regionals. The softball team won regionals after beating the number one ranked team, Twin Lakes. They haven't gone that far since their coach, **Michelle Powers** pitched for the team and helped them to be state finalists in 1989 and state qualifiers in 1990. The baseball team won sectionals by defeating Morton for the championship. Seniors **Paul Blahunka** and **Derek Blythe** both advanced to regionals for golf.

That unbelievable feeling when you score the winning touchdown or hit the winning home run will stay in the hearts of players forever. The football team won Homecoming against East Chicago Central in the last seven seconds when junior **Kevin Cap** made a spectacular catch.

It was the *last* time that many of the seniors will be joined together with their teammates they have played with for many years. Seniors **Emily Coddington** and **Sarah Bacan** both played volleyball, basketball, and softball together for the past four years.

Shot's made by the players have left the fans in amazement. These little things have kept the teams together and made lasting memories to be carried with them throughout life.

~Candice Peters

Clockwise from top left: Junior **Julie Rutledge** warms up before a volleyball game. Junior **Justin Sidor** along with sophomore **Eric Koson** play a game of soccer. The boys soccer team made it to sectionals. Senior **Tim Krebs** prepares to dive into the water. Krebs made it to state swimming the 100 yard breast stroke. Girls' Varsity softball team unites after winning sectionals. Senior **Sarah Bacan** starts to make a move towards the basket against a Highland defendant. In the back: A group of fans are gathered to cheer on the Volleyball team at Morton at the Championship game against Clark.





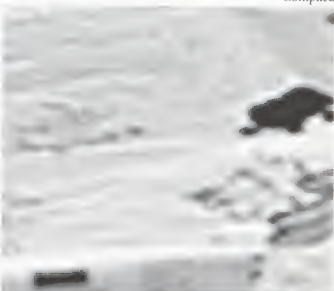
gaining *new respect*

Compiled by Michelle Cuneco & Amanda Greevich

fun with paint

Adding the final touches, junior **Angelina Alvarez** finishes her t-shirt the night before the Sectional game against Morton. Alvarez was the only player to be on both the varsity and junior varsity rosters the whole season.

Lower Everhart



Who did it feel best to beat?

"I think Morton was the best to beat because nobody ever thought that we could beat them and we actually did."

senior Emily Coddington



Athletes tell it like it is...



Front Row: Emily Coddington, Anne Medsker Second Row: Angelina Alvarez, Andrea Melendez, Nichole Popovich, Julie Rutledge, Susan Hoss Third Row: Kathleen Vanek, Michelle Cuneco, Head Coach Michelle Powers, Breanne Steagall, Lindsay Chapa Fourth Row: Jessica Everhart, Asst. Coach Torie Parsons, Sarah Bacan, Coach Don Whittemore



Front Row: Elizabeth Polesa, Kimberly Fredericka, Angelina Alvarez, Rachel Chandler Second Row: Angelina Hinson, Stephanie Pinkerton, Nicole Clarkson, Selena Bermudez, Stephanie Kolitz Third Row: Veronica Solis, Sarah Fry, Coach Don Whittemore, Selena Saldana, Carolyne Joseph

sectional champs *regional runners-up*

For the first time in 14 years, Griffith's volleyball team won sectionals. Here are some of the facts:

- ✱ Junior **Andrea Melendez** carried a volleyball around school the day the team beat state-ranked Morton in the first game of sectionals and asked her teammates to kiss it.
- ✱ The Lady Panthers became the most successful volleyball team in Griffith's history by winning a regional match.
- ✱ 12 of the 17 girls on the roster put their hair in braids for regionals.
- ✱ The team prayed before every post-season game and attended mass together the day they won sectionals.



The Lady Panthers celebrate after receiving their Sectional trophy.

but you didn't know..

66%
of their away games the Panthers won

57%
of the coin tosses were won by the GHS team



Mac Elmer



Matt Elter



high spirits

Jumping up from the bench, senior Jessica Everhart, junior Andrea Melendez and senior Anne Medsker celebrate at one of their Sectional matches. "Beating Morton was one of the most intense moments of my life," senior Jessica Everhart said. "We kept jumping up on almost every play."

team unity

Before a game, the starting line-up gather in a huddle which became a pre-game tradition. "We would get in a circle and say something stupid to ease our nerves," junior Julie Rutledge said.



How do you feel about being on the coaching staff for both sectional winners?

"I feel quite proud because I was part of the only two sectional wins in volleyball."

What was it like being an assistant vs. the head coach?

"Being the assistant was a lot of fun because Michelle [Powers] handled all of the trouble like fund raising and all I had to do was coach. I really enjoyed the last two years coaching with her."

-Assistant Coach Don Whittemore

coach's breakdown

as the season wraps up

MVP: Sarah Bacan

"I was really excited because I won last year and it was my goal for this year."

Most Improved: Julie Rutledge

"I was excited about winning the award but was so embarrassed when I slipped in front of everyone."

BMA: Kathleen Vanok

"I was really surprised and honored to receive this award."

1st Team All Conference: Sarah Bacan, Emily Coddington

2nd Team All Conference: Lindsay Chapa, Jessica Everhart

All Conference Honorable Mention: Kathleen Vanok

scores

Merrillville: 13-15, 8-15 L
 East Chicago: 15-4, 15-1 W
 River Forest: 15-5, 15-10 W
 Highland: 9-15, 12-15 L
 Lake Station: 15-6, 15-9 W
 Benton Central: 12-15, 8-15 L
 Crown Point: 10-15, 10-15 L
 North Newton: 15-12, 12-15, 12-15 L
 Andean: 15-11, 15-6 W
 Hebron: 15-13, 8-15, 15-4 W
 Calumet: 15-3, 15-7 W
 Hanover Central: 10-15, 7-15 L
 North Newton: 10-15, 15-13, 7-15 L
 Lowell: 15-13, 6-15, 9-15 L
 Hobart: 15-9, 15-7 W
 Morton: 10-15, 9-15 L
 Munster: 11-15, 8-15 L
 Clark: 15-4, 15-9 W
 Caston: 15-4, 15-8 W
 Gavi: 15-13, 6-15, 15-10 W
 Wheeler: 4-15, 14-16 L
 Hanover Central: 3-15, 10-15 L
 Lake Central: 10-15, 10-15 L
 Bishop Noll: 15-13, 14-16, 15-6 W
 Gavi: 15-12, 15-6 W
 Valparaiso: 15-9, 13-15, 7-15 L
 Crown Point: 15-9, 12-15, 15-12 W
 Hammond High: 15-4, 15-12 W
 Whiting: 12-15, 15-6, 15-10 W
 West Side: 15-4, 15-4 W
 Portage: 15-7, 13-15, 15-15 L

Sectionals
 Morton: 15-11, 15-6 W
 Bishop Noll: 13-15, 15-9, 15-4 W
 Clark: 15-6, 15-2 W

Regionals
 South Bend St. Joseph: 9-15, 15-8, 15-6 W
 Mishawaka Marian: 11-15, 5-15 L



Matt Elter

ready to go

Preparing for the serve, senior Sarah Bacan stoops down to the ground. During the middle of the season, the lineup was changed so that Bacan could pass more, which meant she wouldn't set anymore.

busting up the balls

Compiled by Amanda Greevich and Michelle Cuneo

looking to the sky

Going up to serve the ball, junior **Phillip Cadle** sets himself up. Cadle played number one doubles with senior **Michael Reyna**.



Kelli Schwan

standing guard

Returning the ball to his opponent, senior **John Hanson** lines up his racket for a good hit. Hanson was ranked number one singles and was named all-conference.



Kelli Schwan

scores

Lowell	2-3 L
Hobart	4-1 W
Andreon	2-3 L
Lake Central	5-0 W
Clark	4-1 W
Morton	4-1 W
Lake Station Inv.	5-0 W
River Forest	3-2 W
Munster	0-5 L
Calumer	4-1 W
Highland	0-5 L
Lake Station	5-0 W
Lowell	2-3 L
Bishop Noll	5-0 W
Hammond High	5-0 W
Morton	4-1 W
Gavit	3-2 W
<i>Sectionals</i>	
Lew Wallace	5-0 W
Crown Point	0-5 L

backhand
forehand
lob
volley
overhead
drop shot
slice
serve

tennis, anyone?



Kelli Schwan



Kelli Schwan



working for it

Stretching to return the ball, senior **Matthew Sherry** makes his best effort against his opponent. "We all had fun and played hard," Sherry said. "I wish I could have advanced out of sectionals, but I think the season was good."

tick. tock...

Waiting anxiously, senior **Michael Reyna** prepares to return the ball after his opponent serves it. Reyna was part of the number one doubles team on varsity.



Kelli Schott

as the season wraps up

MVP: John Hanson and Matthew Sherry

"I'm proud of how everyone on the team played and improved throughout the season."

-Matthew Sherry

Most Improved: Michael Reyna

"I was surprised because I thought other people improved a lot but I was still glad that I got it."

BMA: Michael Hernandez

"I was excited because I worked hard all year."



Front Row: Michael Hernandez, Paul Dalach, John Hanson Second Row: Phillip Cadle, Michael Reyna, Gary Hayes(coach), Matthew Sherry, Joseph Tharp

What was it like coming into the season as a new coach?

"I wasn't very nervous because I've been coaching for 31 years, but I think it was hard for the players to get used to my disciplined practices."

What teams were the toughest competition?

"Munster, Lake Central, Andean, and Highland- they all finished in the top four."

How did you feel about the season?

"I thought we did pretty well but we lost a few close matches. The players sold themselves short on their talent."

-Coach Gary Hayes

the coach's break-down

it's in the numbers

Adjusting the scores, sophomore **Michael Hernandez** resets them after a match. Hernandez, one of only two sophomores, was ranked number three singles.



scores

Boone Grove: 11, 0 W
 Chesterton: 0, 5 L
 Michigan City: 9, 0 W
 Lowell: 1, 10 L
 Valparaiso: 0, 1 L
 Andean: 0, 1 L
 Merrillville: 1, 2 L
 Morton: 1, 7 L
 Highland: 1, 0 W
 Crown Point: 1, 1 Tie
 Lake Central: 1, 2 L
 Munster: 0, 1 L
 LaPorte: 3, 1 W
 Portage: 1, 2 L
 Bishop Noll: 3, 2 W
 Hobart: 2, 0 W
Sectionals
 Lowell: 3, 0 W
 Highland: 1, 3 L

passin' it

Following through, senior **Lindsay Vrane** completes a pass against a Lowell opponent. "Some of my most fun memories of this year are of our discussions that we had on the bus rides," Vrane said. "They were crazy."

as the season wraps up

MVP: Caryn Miller and Lindsay Vrane

"I was shocked, but I was also happy because it made me realize that all my hard work had finally paid off."—Caryn Miller

Most Improved: Melissa Gaddini

"I was very surprised that I won because I never suspected I would win anything."

BMA: Colleen Veehey

"I was happy all my hard work payed off, but I was also sad because it was the last award I'll ever get for high school soccer."

1st team All Conference: Michelle Gaddini, Caryn Miller, Lindsay Vrane

2nd team All Conference: Melissa Hart, Colleen Veehey

All Conference Honorable Mention: Samantha Quintero



Front Row: Allison Banta, Caryn Miller, Samantha Quintero, Kitzyn Lafayette, Colleen Veehey Second Row: Annie Kurbas, Michelle Gaddini, Lindsay Vrane, Carrie Petroski, Lisa Carroll, Kristen Buehler, Tammy Helt, Angela Parent Third Row: Coach Ricardo Dominguez, Asst. Coach Trisha Verbach, Melissa Gaddini, Laura Worley, Melissa Hart, Melissa Peterson, Julian Gajewski, Coach Chris Perez, Coach Raul Dominguez



Front Row: Crystal Wilcox, Sarah Handvey, Emily Jennings, Heather Seccasiani Second Row: Christen Ivash, Jamie Darnell, Kate Flory, Brittany Parejo, Jennifer Sims, Holly Williams Third Row: Coach Ricardo Gonzalez, Asst. Coach Trisha Verbach, Melaine Johnson, Christina Saldana, Kelly Davis, Veronica Jacobs, Amanda Laurencell, Coach Chris Perez, Coach Raul Dominguez

shooting *for the goal*

Compiled by Kellie Sternberg

stop that ball

Reaching for it, senior Samantha Quintero tries to save the ball at an away game. This was Quintero's second year playing goalie on varsity and she set the record for allowing the least amount of goals scored in a season.



keep away

Dribbling the ball, junior Jullann Gajewski concentrates on escaping her opponent. This was Gajewski's second year playing varsity. The team received a fourth place finish in the LAC conference.



Name: Michelle Gaddini

Sports: Soccer

Position: Center Midfielder

Grade: 11

Why do you like to play soccer?

"I like playing because of all the friends I have made on the team. They are what make it fun."

What is the one thing a team needs to do well?

"Communication on the field is the key. That's the one thing our team needs to work on."

What is your most memorable moment of the season?

"Winning against Valpo because no Griffith team has ever beat them. It was a very intense game and I scored the only goal."

52 18 0
Number of goals scored Number of goals allowed Number of wins in the regular season

but you didn't know..

What do you like best about coaching?

"Watching all the players mature during the four years and knowing the girls are getting some benefit from this experience."

What is your most memorable moment of the season?

"When the guys team taped our goals with Saran Wrap so the girls got back at them by stealing their practice field."

What was the best part of the season?

"Seniors night when we won a shoot-out against Bishop Noll." - Head Coach Raul Dominguez

Use coach's bread down

keepin' track

Eying the game, sophomore Nicholas Demske keeps a close watch on the action as he takes down stats. This was Demske's first year as a manager. "Out of every single team sport in the school the girls' soccer team was definitely the kindest," Demske said.



Sports

scores

Lowell: 5-0 W
 Chester: 1-1 Tie
 Morton: 3-2 W
 Hobart: 4-0 W
 Munster: 3-2 W
 Crown Point: 5-1 W
 Bishop Noll: 1-2 L
 Merrillville: 3-5 L
 Clark: 12-0 W
 Portage: 0-3 L
 Gavit: 5-1 W
 Lake Central: 2-2 Tie
 Andean: 3-2 W
 Hammond High: 14-1 W
 Highland: 1-2 L
 Valparaiso: 0-7 L
Sectionals
 Gavit: 1-5 W
 Munster: 0-4 L

got the ball

Slide tackling his opponent, sophomore Eric Koson works to gain control of the ball with the help of senior Craig Sims. The soccer team only had three seniors on their varsity roster.



Matt Elster

what a save

Retrieving the shot, junior Gregory Bowers saves the oncoming ball. "I like playing keeper because the team depends on me to keep them in the game when there is a breakdown on defense," Bowers said.



Victor Sendejas

as the season wraps up

MVP: Craig Sims and Derek Blythe

"I feel honored," Blythe said. "There are a lot of good players and we all carried our own weight during the season."

Most Improved: Joshua Moon

"I was shocked," Moon said. "I didn't play all that much and I didn't think coach [Ron Knestrick] noticed me."

BMA: Victor Sendejas

"The season went very well," Sendejas said. "I put all my effort in everything that I did throughout the season."

1st Team All Area: Craig Sims

All Area Honorable Mention: Derek Blythe

All District: Craig Sims

1st Team All Conference: Derek Blythe, Craig Sims

2nd Team All Conference: Victor Sendejas, Justin Sidor

All Conference Honorable Mention: Justin Kobeszka



How do you think the season went?

"As well as expected with the age of the players, and the number of seniors."

What game did your team play the best at?

"The team played best against Lake Central and Munster during the regular season."

What was the most memorable moment of this season?

"The best moment of this season would be the 3 to 2 win over Munster during regular season." -Head Coach Ron Knestrick

The coach's breakdown



First row: Roy LaBarge, Nicolas Kasbohm, Omar Gonzalez, Jeffrey Konopasek, Steffen Redar Second Row: Eric Vechev, Matthew Gelfert, Justin Ricketts, Anthony Poreza, Matthew Horn, Alex Sepulveda Third Row: Coach Ronald Knestrick Jr. Shawn Bernick, Steve Homoky, Corey Hecht, Paul Worley, Nathaniel Fentress, Miljan Lukajic, Sean Carey, Matthew Fisher



First row: Carlo Gurrola, Joshua Moon, Shawn Zolcak, Gregory Bowers, Sean Carey, Justin Kobeszka, Steffen Redar Second Row: Nicholas Piner, Derek Blythe, Daniel Bernotas, Victor Sendejas, Eric Koson, Elliott Miller, Jordan Bruce, Third Row: Coach Ron Knestrick Sr. Justin Sidor, Kyle Domazet, Timothy Thirlon, Mark Forster, Craig Sims, Asst. coach Ronald Knestrick Jr.

what's happenin'?

Chatting about the game, junior Victor Sendejas talks to coaches Ron Knestrict and Ronald Knestrict Jr. "I started coaching to get back into the sport and to help the kids develop their skills," Knestrict Jr. said.



Matt Flair

break on through

Moving the ball up the field, senior Derek Blythe looks for an open opponent to pass the ball to. Along with Craig Sims, Blythe was one of the two captains for the varsity team.



Matt Flair

how'd we do?

Taking a break, junior Justin Sidor listens to the coach's speech. "I play soccer because it conditions me mentally and physically," Sidor said. "You have to run a lot and pay attention to everyone's actions around you."



Matt Flair

searching for the right shot

Compiled by Brandi Harveth



"Against Munster, Dana Zukanovich and Nancy Robles wore my jerseys. The fact that I got a red card in that game was memorable also."

senior Shawn Zolcak



"Craig Sims kicked Eric Kocon's ball in the bed of an oncoming truck. The truck stopped for a second, then drove away."

- junior Mark Forster



"Scoring the tying goal against Bishop Noll. Even though we lost in a shootout, it was still a crucial part of the game."

- junior Nicholas Planer



"When we won against Hammond High, Steven Wisniewski had a hat trick and ran and jumped in the mud."

- sophomore Paul Worley



"When some of the team pulled down Nate Fentress's shorts and pushed him into the girl's soccer goal."

- freshman Justen Ricketts



"When I scored the game winning goal against Munster during the regular season game."

- freshman Carlo Gurrola

What's your best memory?

*At photos I'll
it like it is...*

65% of the players bleached their hair for sectionals

22% of the players dyed their hair various colors for sectionals

but you didn't know..

by the books...

Net Yards Rushed: 3405

leader: Tyler Radtke

Net Yards Passed: 425

leader: Tyler Radtke

Net Yards Gained: 3830

leader: Tyler Radtke

Tackles: 395

leader: Ryan Stage

Sacks: 14

leader: Craig Kovera

Passes attempted: 46

leader: Tyler Radtke

Passes completed: 25

leader: Tyler Radtke

Interceptions: 10

leader: Shawn Medsker

Blocked kicks: 1

leader: Nicholas Crawford

ahead of the rest

Out-running his opponent, junior quarterback **Tyler Radtke** scrambles for a few extra yards during the Homecoming football game. The Panthers scored a touchdown late in the fourth quarter to secure the win.



Matt Finer

a sign to above

Pointing upward, senior **Shawn Medsker** signals to the sky after scoring a touchdown. "Every touchdown I scored, I made sure that I dedicated it to my boy Nick Taylor because everything we did out there we did for him," Medsker said.



Matt Finer

as the season wraps up

MVP: Team

Although the team was given this award, 16 people voted for former teammate **Nicholas Taylor**

Most Improved: Brandon Powell

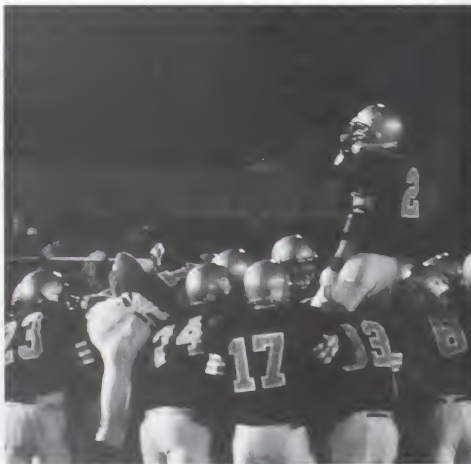
"I was really surprised because at the beginning of the season I didn't think that I would play, much less start."

BMA: Lawrence Swartzel

"I was pretty happy that I got the award. I worked so hard and did my best and it shows with my award."

1st Team All Conference: Justin Grimmer, Shawn Medsker, Tyler Radtke, Ryan Stage

All Conference Honorable Mention: Kyle Alexander, Nicholas Crawford, Justin Falk, Craig Kovera, Scott Negroto



What do you feel you accomplished this year?

"This was the first senior class to beat Hobart at Hobart. No other senior class has ever accomplished that. Also we reached the sectional championship for the 12th year in a row."

What was your most memorable moment of the season?

"Every time the team brought up Nick Taylor even though he wasn't there and seeing Mrs. Taylor at the games. As hard as it must have been for her, she still came to the games and supported the team even though her son wasn't playing. Seeing her cheer at the Lowell sectional game also meant a lot. The coaches and the players on the sidelines noticed that. It meant a lot to everyone but especially Nick's closest friends."

-Head Coach Russ Radtke

the coach is breaking down

breaking down the walls

compiled by Colleen Vechey



Matt Filner

a cry out loud

Showing his emotions, senior Justin Newell kneels on the 40 yard line as he absorbs the loss to Lowell in the sectional finals. "I wouldn't have rather played on any other team," Newell said. "I'm really going to miss it."



Bottom Row: Kevin Lawrence, Danny Hurd, Nicholas Crawford, Shawn Medsker, Claudia Nuno (mgr), Justin Falk, Brad Giesco, Jimmy Cunningham, Ryan Zolcak. Second Row: Adam Stout, Lawrence Swentzel, Stanley DeJand, Brett Wartman, Troy Dammron, Cory Rakes, Kyle Massa, Ryan Blythe, Jason Shultz. Third Row: Tara Vaznonis (mgr), Melanie Scherlinga (trainer), Coach Eric Schreiber, Coach Dan McCoy, Head Coach Russ Radtke, Coach Ted White, Coach Jim Pickett, Courtney Shethish (mgr), Jessica Newell (mgr). Fourth Row: Kevin Cap, Daniel O'Connor, Anthony Logan, Juani Palmer, Justin Grimmer, Jason Alexander, Mario Ruff, Damian Mitchell, Christopher Spigeti, Kyle Alexander. Fifth Row: Robert Handcar, Justin Newell, Craig Sims, Kyle Schofield, Scott Negrete, Kenneth Keelen, Joshua Handley, Jacob Malone, Nathan Laird, Matthew Gonzalez. Sixth Row: Craig Kovera, Tyler Radtke, Ryan Stage, Mark Amos, Christopher Peacock, Bret Rocchietti, Patrick Markovich, Brandon Powell, Christopher Rousseau.

What do you do?

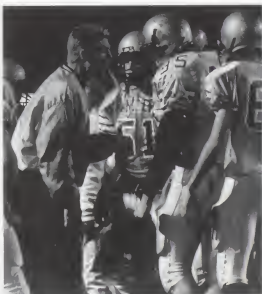
eat at Pascale's

watch prep report

go to the cemetery

go to the football field

it was the night before game day



Matt Filner

getting it together

Huddling together, the Panther football team gets together before a home game while senior Nicholas Crawford sits on top. "Every game the team just expected me to jump on top," Crawford said. "It got the crowd pumped up."

talking it out

Giving instructions, coach Dan McCoy talks to sophomore Daniel O'Connor and junior Bret Rocchietti during a time out. "Lowell came out in a weird formation at a crucial point in the game so we took a time-out to discuss how to stop them," Rocchietti said.

What superstitions do you have?



"I have never washed my black socks and they itch when I put them on."
- sophomore Nate Spitz



"Before every game Tyler [Radtke] and I would go to the same place to eat. If we lost we had to go somewhere else."
- senior Joshua Handley



"I wear the same T-shirt that I wore when we won state and I only wash it when we lose."
- senior Cory Rakes



"I never wear my black jersey to school. I wore it once last year and we lost to Lake Central."
- senior Justin Newell

scores

Elkhart Central: 14-52 L
Hobart: 21-10 W
Andean: 28-27 W
Lake Central: 21-28 L
Munster: 28-7 W
Lowell: 17-21 L
EC Central: 35-33 W
Highland: 28-42 L
Hammond: 25-18 W

Sectionals

Munster: 34-7 W
Hammond: 20-14 W
Lowell: 14-17 L

racing *for the chute*

Compiled by Julie Rutledge

things to eat

powerbars

pasta

oatmeal

things to avoid

bananas

milk

eggs

think before you eat

Survey of the X-country team



Lacey Lyn Williams

loosening up

Getting loose before a race, senior **Danielle Hennes** stretches her legs. "I wasn't feeling well so I was lying down, but I still had to get ready to run."

going strong

Keeping a good pace, freshman **Ashley Enloe** tries to maintain focus the race. It was a learning year for the cross country team, according to Coach Tim Powers. "We had a lot of underclassmen."



Lacey Lyn Williams



Lacey Lyn Williams

sticking with it

Running at Oak Ridge Prairie, senior Carrie Giltmire leads the pack. All of Griffith's home meets were run at Oak Ridge.

getting ready

Stretching her calves before a race, freshman Stacey Caron pushes against a tree. Caron was one of six freshmen on the team.



Isaac J. Williams

scores

Merrillville: 1st Lowell:
2nd
Andean: 2nd Us: 3rd

Calumet: 2nd Us: 1st

Highland: 1st Us: 2nd

Munster: 1st
Gavit: 2nd Us: 3rd

Morton: 1st
Clark: 2nd Us: 3rd

Lowell Invitational: 9th

Gavit Invitational: 8th

Highland Invitational:
15th

Clark Invitational: 8th

Lake Athletic
Conference: 8th

Sectionals: 8th

finally over

Gasping for air, senior **Samantha Adame** collapses after a cross country meet. Adame has run cross country all four years. "It felt great to finish a race. Even though it took a lot out of me it was worth it to know that I could push myself to finish."

What made this season different from the past?

"I had a lot of first time runners and I put in a summer running program."

What were your team's biggest strengths?

"The girls got along really well and the parent involvement was super. The leadership of sophomore Tiffany Juarez, our number 1 runner, helped us a lot."

What was your team's biggest weakness?

"Our weaknesses were in numbers. We only had 11 girls and just didn't have enough miles in before the season." - Head Coach Tim Powers

the coach's breakdown



Isaac J. Williams

as the season wraps up

MVP: Tiffany Juarez

"I think that we did really well this season for having such a young team."

Most Improved: Christina Redden

"I was really surprised. I didn't know that my team had so much faith in me."

BMA: Samantha Adame

"I try to keep the girls motivated by keeping their spirits up. I was honored to win this award."



Front Row: Shannon Scheidel, Emily Gierman, Tiffany Juarez, Samantha Adame, Stacy Caron, Ashley Enloe Second Row: Asst. Coach Dan Govers, Sarah Govers, Kellie Sternberg, Christina Redden, Carrie Giltmire, Danielle Hennes, Coach Tim Powers

staying focused

Keeping his eyes on his competitors, sophomore **Tom Cservenak** strides ahead through the straight-away. Cservenak ripped a ligament just before conference. "It was very disappointing to watch the rest of my team run, but I still cheered them on."



scores

Gavit Invite: DNP
Calumet 2nd U.S. 1st
Morton 1st Clark 3rd
U.S. 2nd
Highland: 1st U.S. 2nd
Munster 1st Gavit: 3rd
U.S. 2nd
Lowell Invite: 10th
Bishop Noll: 1st
U.S. 2nd
Highland Invite: 18th
K.V. Invite: 6th
Clark Invite: 7th
LAC: 6th
Sectional: 7th



How long have you been coaching?
"This is my first year coaching the boys' team and my second coaching the girls."

What is it like coaching both teams?
"It's not that big of a problem. The race days are the same and the workouts stay consistent. The teams parallel each other fantastic."

Do you plan to continue coaching?
"Yes, I really enjoy it. I think we made a step in the right direction. We have enough younger runners. Less than 30 percent of the runners were juniors and seniors. We re-established that we have a good running program, and that other teams have to run hard to beat us."

-Coach Tim Powers

The coach's breakdown



Front Row: Raymond Hall, Tom Cservenak, Joshua Teague, Michael Gleim Second Row: Asst. Coach Daniel Govert, Eric Salczynski, Jeremy Brzycki, Neil Dimos, Head Coach Tim Powers

running *in circles*

compiled by Eric Salczynski



going the distance

Looking ahead, sophomore **Adam Wilbert** surges around the corner. Wilbert, who ran for his first year, was pressured into joining by friends who also ran. "Tiffany Juarez kept bugging me to join. She thinks I'm a good runner."

huff and puff

Coming into the chute, senior **Eric Salczynski** finishes up the race. Salczynski was the only senior runner on the team. "This was a great bunch of guys," said Salczynski. "We had a lot of underclassmen and they are going to be really strong in the next couple seasons."



as the season wraps up

plan of attack

Looking at his times, Junior Jeremy Brzycki goes over team strategy with coach Daniel Govert. Govert helped the team by providing strategies and breathing techniques. Every Sunday Govert would take members of the team to run at The Dunes.

keeping loose

Limbering up his legs, freshman Michael Gleim stretches his muscles. Gleim was one of only three freshmen on the boys' team. All but one of the boys team were underclassmen.



What is your motivation?



"I wanted to be in top physical condition."
-sophomore Tom Cservenak



"To train for wrestling."
-junior Jeremy Brzycki



"It's fun and I want to run in college."
-freshman Timothy Swanson



"I run because it's hard and not everyone can do it."
-sophomore Neil Dimos



kings of the hill

Sprinting ahead, sophomore Neil Dimos and junior Jeremy Brzycki lead a small pack down the hill. Dimos and Brzycki, although both suffering from injuries, led the team throughout the season.

getting limber

Stretching out before a meet at Oak Ridge Prairie, freshman Timothy Swanson gets loose. Stretching as a team was stressed. It helped build the team spirit according to Coach Tim Powers.

measure it

Measuring the shot put and discus distances, junior Breanne Steagall decides to spend some of her time after school to help out at middle school track meet at Griffith. "I helped out because I like encouraging the younger kids to stay in track," Steagall said."



Matt Finer

getting ready

Preparing for the upcoming varsity game, sophomore Matthew O'Grady is the manager for this year's baseball teams. This was O'Grady's first year of being manager. "I wanted to be a baseball manager because it would be the easiest way for me to get a letter," O'Grady said.



Viggo Sendejas

managers' least favorite chores:

carrying equipment
cleaning after practice
counting jerseys
after games
filling water bottles
taking attendance

when do i get paid?

Survey of all team managers

keeping time

Doing her job, junior Jennifer Laffoon keeps track of splits of times in relays and individual times. "One of my friends is a swimmer and he got me into it. It's been a lot of fun ever since I started," Laffoon said.



Matt Finer



what's happenin'?

Taking stats at the varsity softball game, freshman **Nicole Zakrzewski** is one of the two varsity softball managers. "I wanted to be a manager because I played softball when I was little and I wanted to support the team."

helping out

Keeping track of diving scores at the girls' Sectional held at Munster, sophomore **Jeremy Martin** helps out the team by writing their scores down. Martin was a member of the boys' diving team.



Cortey Hecht



Shari Finner

what a big help

Taking time out after school to help at a middle school track meet, freshman **Elizabeth Jones** measures the long jump distances. "I was asked to help out at the meet, and I like to help out when I can. I didn't have any other plans that day so I went," Jones said.



Shari Finner

lending a helping hand

Compiled by Kristen Buehler



"Winning the first round of the [basketball] semi-state finals was one of my best memories this season."

- senior Jackie DeYoung

"A couple of times the boys would throw me in the swimming pool with my clothes on."

- junior Jennifer Laffoon



"After the [basketball] season was over, coach Jack Gabor invited the whole team over to his house and we threw a party."

- sophomore Hillary Bernath

"I had a lot of fun on all of the bus rides to the away games. I also had fun on the way home from the games that we won at."

- sophomore Rachel Albright



"On Seniors' Night against Bishop Noll, the varsity girls [soccer] were tied, so they had to go into a shoot out, which they won in the second round."

- sophomore Nick Demsko

"When the girls [basketball] team won regionals. That whole experience was wonderful for me. I was very happy for them, since I knew that they had never gone that far before."

- senior Jeretta McDaniel



What's your best memory?

Managers tell it like it is...

70%

of the school managers are girls.

30%

of the managers are guys.

but you didn't know..

warming up

Getting ready for the season, seniors **Ramon Rocha** and **Cory Rakes** run warm up laps before practice. This year was Rocha's first year wrestling since junior high.

by the books...

Most Takedowns: 50
leader: Kenny Bellamy

Most Wins: 27
leaders: Mark Govert
and Kenny Bellamy

Most Reversals: 16
leader: Douglas Pondo

Most Nearfalls: 35
leader: Kenny Bellamy

Quickest Pin: 0:08
leader: Mark Govert

Most Pins: 16
leader: Kenny Bellamy

Most Escapes: 28
leader: Sonnie Kireta



Kelly Schoon

tearing up the mats

compiled by Julie Rutledge

as the season wraps up

MVP: Kenny Bellamy

"I think that it was a good year because everyone stepped it up a notch, especially the freshmen."

Most Improved: Douglas Pondo

"The coaches pushed us real hard throughout the season and the freshmen stepped it up a notch to help us win some close matches."

BMA: Mark Govert

"We struggled a lot last year. But because of this year's freshmen and the hard work of the upperclassmen, the team improved a lot."

Sectional Champs/Regional Qualifiers: John Hanson,

Kenny Bellamy, Sonnie Kireta, David Martin

Regional Qualifiers: Douglas Pondo, Mark Govert, Daniel

Schoon, Mario Ruff, Cory Rakes

Semi-State Qualifier: Kenny Bellamy

going for it all

Using all of his strength, junior **Kenny Bellamy** sticks his opponent to the mat. Bellamy was the only member of the team to advance to semi-state after a third place finish at the Calumet Regionals.



Kelly Schoon

Were you happy with the way your team wrestled this year?

"I had a magnificent season. I wrestled with 7 freshmen all year and won 16 matches. The team was only 6 points away from being the team sectional champs."

What was the most memorable moment of the season for you?

"Having Sonnie Kireta win sectionals. He was seeded last and won both of his matches by one point."

How did you feel having 11 guys advance to regionals?

"It was incredible for these kids to experience the next level in wrestling, we can build on this next year."

-Head Coach Travis Walls

the coach's breakdown

What is your favorite move?



"I like the power fall because I have long legs and they help me flip my opponent over."

-senior John Hanson



"The Japanese Wizard is my favorite because it is a good way to get them on their backs."

-freshman Andrew Raduski



"I like the snapdown because it is a quick takedown and it is easy and I'm good at it."

-freshman David Martin III



"I like the lateral throw because you hook their arms, then lean back and throw them. It is really fun."

-junior Mark Givert



Front Row: Kase Kassel (mgr), Karen Kase (mgr), Brian Soto (mgr), Mike Kouride (mgr), Kathryn Johnson (mgr), Julian Gajewski (mgr), Michelle Ashenbush (mgr), Alida Brooks (mgr) Second Row: Coach Chris Morris, Amanda Mitchell (mgr), Sonnie Kireta, Daryl Frey, Shayne Daphis, Daniel Schoon, Robert Bradford, David Martin, Jason Alexander, Quince Ballas, Christopher Alexander, Nicholas Green, Kevin Jerred, Michael Carey, Karen Ford (mgr), Coach Tim Crothers Third Row: Kathryn Ramsey (mgr), Trish Schuman (mgr), Coach Russ Radke, Kenny Bellamy, Keith Menman, Kyle Alexander, John Hanson, Mario Ruff, Cory Baley, Bret Rocchetti, Jeremy Bryzic, Craig Decker, Brian Gerenda, Mark Givert, Ramon Rocha, Douglas Pondo, Head Coach Travis Walls, Andrew Raduski, Sarah Raybourne



Kelli Schwan

staying warm

After pulling a muscle during practice, sophomore Douglas Pondo rides the bike to keep his heart rate up. Pondo ran before and after school almost every day to make weight at 119lbs. Pondo also advanced to regionals along with 10 of his other teammates.

keeping calm

Keeping his cool, coach John Hanson suggests a move to one of his wrestlers. Hanson has been coaching for six years. His son was a senior on the team this year. "It was hard wrestling with my dad as a coach. He pushed me hard because he wanted to see me succeed," said senior John Hanson.



Kelli Schwan

scores

Lake Station:	40, 30 W
Chesterlon:	12, 58 L
Delphi:	46, 18 W
Maine West:	27, 48 L
Connersville:	39, 33 W
Valparaiso:	3, 68 L
Bishop Noll:	36, 37 L
Bellmont:	6, 75 L
Gavit:	27, 50 L
Brebuft:	72, 12 W
E.C. Central:	24, 42 L
Yorktown:	18, 62 L
Huntington:	15, 62 L
Highland:	13, 55 L
Floyd Central:	33, 38 L
Lake Station:	33, 40 L
Southmont:	27, 54 L
Hammond High:	60, 21 W
Huntington:	28, 50 L
Lowell:	4, 67 L
Munster:	36, 45 L
Kankakee Valley:	28, 48 L
Andean:	54, 25 W
Benton Central:	39, 39 T
Boone Grove:	54, 24 W
Whiting:	70, 12 W
Bishop Noll:	33, 40 L
Merrillville:	12, 60 L
Munster:	27, 50 L
Morton:	69, 12 W
Hanover Central:	72, 9 W
Gavit:	23, 48 W
Morton:	36, 34 W
Calumet:	22, 45 L
Andean:	43, 24 W
Munster:	16, 54 L
Calumet:	26, 45 L
Morton:	51, 29 W
Lake Station:	36, 32 W
Conference 7th:	
Sectionals:	2nd

Sports

✦ Sophomore **Teanna Sutton** became the first Griffith Lady Panther swimmer to advance to the state finals, swimming the 100 fly.



Sutton is recognized for making state at the pep rally in February.

Swim *into infamy*

How did it feel to be the first Griffith girl to swim down state?

"It was pretty exciting seeing as though it's my first year here."

What did you do to get there?

"It took hard work and listening to coach. You have to trust him. And of course the team—they always push you."

team it up

Getting pumped up for their meet, the girls' team does a pre-match cheer. "The cheer helped me a lot," junior **Veronica Solis** said. "It motivated me."

aiming *for the top*

Compiled by Susan Huss

wanna be a baller

- lil' troy

larger than life

- backstreet boys

guerilla radio

- rage against the machine

bawitdaba

- kid rock

songs that make them wanna swim



Maia Fitter



Jeremy Martin



Front Row: Freia McMillon, Lindsay Govers, Teanna Sutton, Virginia Scott, Mary Belcher Second Row: Marie Ritchey (mgr.), Stephanie Bridgegroom, Shannon Churchill, Adriana Aguilar, Jill Popovich, Valerie Saltsanovitz, Jennifer Laffoon (mgr.) Third Row: Lacey Hall, Hannah Zemke, Veronica Solis, Megan Scapleton, Asst. Coach Joe Lamendola Fourth Row: Asst. Coach Samuel Flies, Kelly Owcarszak, Veronica Jacobs, Kristen Klein, Vanessa Rodriguez, Coach Rob Gass



How did the team do this season?

"I thought we had a great season. We finished off especially well. We broke six school records at sectionals."

How did it feel to advance Teanna Sutton to state?

"Pretty awesome—it's about the best feeling you can have when someone accomplishes that. I also felt a little disappointment for Lacey Hall and Hannah Zemke. They deserved to be there just as much as Teanna, but they came up a little short."

—Head Coach Rob Gass

the coach's breakdown

little headline

Getting a workout, sophomore **Lindsay Govert** and other members of the swim team do crunches as conditioning for swimming. The team had to temporarily do alternative training since the pool filter was broken.

be brave

Bracing himself, Coach **Rob Gass** leaves himself to the mercy of his swimmers. Gass made a preseason deal with the girls--whoever made state could shave his head. Sophomore **Teanna Sutton** won and left a "T" on the back of his head.



Johnny Murray



Matt Flitter

scores

Lowell: 94-92 W
Gavit: 88-98 L
Highland: 80-106 L
Hobart: 124-60 W
Munster: 65-121 L
Rensselaer: 106-79 W
Griffith Invite: 1st place
Merrillville: 78-104 L
LC Invite: 3rd place
Crown Point: 75-108 L
Morton: 66-35 W
Hammond: 88-10 W
LAC Meet: 3rd place
Lake Central: 54-132 L
Bishop Noll: 86-17 W
Clark: 90-10 W
Sectionals: 3rd place

you can do it

Rooting for their teammates, sophomore **Freda McMillon**, senior **Adrianna Aguilar**, and junior **Stephanie Bridegroom** cheer from the poolside. "My favorite meets were the away meets because we had a lot of fun going to the meets," Aguilar said. "We always sang and joked around and after the meet we'd go out together."

all ready

Taking her place on the platform, senior **Mary Belcher** awaits the start of her race. "[To prepare for a race] I usually listen to music and try to get in a mode to swim," Belcher said.

as the season wraps up

MVP: Teanna Sutton

"I was excited because this is my first year here."

Most Improved: Megan Steapleton

"I wasn't thinking about swimming next year, and when I won the award for most improved it made me realize that swimming is something I like to do so I can't stop."

BMA: Kara Kmiec

"This year I tried to be more positive because I knew it was my last year and I just wanted to make it good."

2nd Team All Conference: **Teanna Sutton**

All Conference Honorable Mention: **Hannah Zemke,**

Lacey Hall, Vanessa Rodriguez



Matt Flitter



Front Row: Marle Ritchey (mgr.), Everett Mull, Eric Scott, Mickey Sutton, Jennifer Lafoon (mgr.) Second Row: Jason Kane, Jason Betts, Marcin Karbowiczek, Jon Melendez, Asst. Coach Joe Lamendola Third Row: Asst. Coach Sam Fies, Mark Lewis, Timmy Krebs, Danny Vessel, Robert Denny, Coach Rob Gass

making different strokes

Compiled by Susan Huss

SCORES

Highland: 62-116 L
Hobart: 62-120 L
Rensselaer: 51-128 L
Merrillville: Unavailable
LC Invite: 3rd place
Portage: 47-137 L
Calumet: 43-57 L
Clark: 74-14 W
Crown Point: 48-132 L
Hammond: 31-62 L
Morton: 53-42 W
Munster: 46-129 L
Lake Central: 50-132 L
LAC Meet: 3rd place
Kankakee Valley: 70-101 L
Lowell: 90-94 L
Sectionals: 3rd place

*Senior **tim krebs** was the most successful male swimmer in Griffith's history.



swimming into infancy

What emotions were going through your mind as you swam at state?

"I was just happy to be there. I was hoping to win, but I didn't feel that well that day."

How did it feel to swim at state?

"I wasn't as excited this year because I swam there last year. I just wanted to win."



What were the team's greatest strengths?

"They never gave up. We graduated a huge chunk of our team last year. It left us high and dry, but we got five new kids who got pretty good."

What was the highlight of the season?

"Taking third in conference and sectionals was the team highlight. Both teams that we beat had beaten us in home meets."

How was this team different from other years?

"In years past we've been real strong, but we're used to a team of 20. This year we had 11."

-Head Coach Rob Gass

the coach's breadbox



Matt Fliter

pushing it

Trying to lead the pack, senior **Everett Mull** swims the butterfly. "I swam to stay in good physical shape," Mull said. "I took energy drinks and pills to beat some of my previous times."

helping out

Getting the pool ready for the divers, freshman **Mickey Sutton** moves the lane lines. "Swimming's my favorite sport because I used to have a swimming pool, and I swam all the time," Sutton said. "Everything [about swimming] was fun, especially practices and kickboard fights."

concentration

Gearing up for the race, sophomore **Danny Vessell** prepares to swim. "Sectionals were the best because I got fifth in the 100 yard breast stroke and seventh in the 200 individual medley," Vessell said.

as the season wraps up

MVP: Tim Krebs

"I think I deserved it because I was the only one who got more than one first this year."

Most Improved: Mickey Sutton

"I really felt I deserved it. I improved all my times including a 43 second difference in 200 yard freestyle."

BMA: Jeremy Martin

"I really didn't think I deserved it."

1st Team All Conference: Tim Krebs

What motivates you to keep swimming?



"I get to spend lots of time with my friends and get exercise."

-senior Eric Scott



"I just remember that it'll pay off in the long run because my time will drop."

-junior Jason Kane



"I just love being in the water."

-freshman Jason Betts



"I wanted to get in shape for baseball."

-freshman Jon Melendez



Matt Fliter



Matt Fliter



Matt Fliter

one minute please

Suffering from exhaustion, sophomore **Mark Lewis** stops swimming during the 100 fly. "My head went underwater and I inhaled a bunch of water so I couldn't breathe," Lewis said. "I was also just plain tired."



Matt Fliter

cause for celebration

Raising his arms in triumph, Coach **Rob Gass** celebrates a victory. Gass' team placed third in conference. "At times I questioned their competitive desire, but they never gave up," Gass said.

passin' it

Following the momentum, sophomore **Jeremy Martin** somersaults towards the water as he dives. "When the pool was broke we had to do dry land exercises instead of diving. We did things like sit-ups and leg lifts," Martin said.

What is your most memorable moment?



"At practice I used to drag my leg across the diving board so I wouldn't have to dive."

-senior **Kara Kmiec**



"One time I smacked face first into the water when I was doing a double."

-sophomore **Jeremy Martin**



"Practice the morning of sectionals I was taking my first approach and I hit my arm on the diving board."

-junior **Sarah Blanchard**



"In sectionals, when I was practicing my double and I kept smacking and then in the meet I did awesome."

-junior **Amber Price**



backing it up

Taking a back approach to her dive, junior **Amber Price** waits a second before she attempts her plunge to the water. Price has been diving since she was five years old, although she has only been diving for the school since she was a freshman.



Front Row: **Amber Price**, **Jeremy Martin**, **Coach Doug Price**, **Kara Kmiec**, **Sarah Blanchard**

making a splash

Compiled by Colleen Vechey

up in the air

Twisting her way to the water, senior Kara Kmiec completes a somersault with two twists in the free position. "With my trampoline background I thought diving would be a good experience for me," Kmiec said.

checking up

Preparing to dive, sophomore Jeremy Martin looks down at the board before he attempts to dive. "I make sure that my feet are in the right place so when I do the hurdle I don't break my toes," Martin said.



Name: Sarah Blanchard

Sports: Diving

Grade: 11

What made you decide to dive?

"When I was younger I was on the age group swim team and I always saw the divers practicing. I thought it looked like fun so I joined a program."

What do you feel that you need to work on for next year?

"Most of all I need to improve my courage. You can't be afraid to try harder things in diving, but I was. I will definitely work on that."

What do you like best about diving?

"It's a really fun sport to be in and when you do a dive really well and get good scores, you get a feeling of pride that makes you feel great."

Most years
someone has
been diving

Number of divers
that advanced to
regionals

Number of male
divers

but you
didn't know...

What do you like best about coaching?

"The satisfaction when one of the divers has been working on something for a while and finally gets it."

What is your most memorable moment of the season and what was your most important meet?

"When all the divers qualified for sectionals. The most important meet was definitely sectionals because it got everyone diving at one time."

Why did you decide to coach the diving team?

"I was asked to help one of the divers out by one of the swimming coaches." Coach Doug Price

the coach's head down

flipping it

Flipping through the air, senior Kara Kmiec nears the water as she does one somersault with her back straight. This was Kmiec's third year as a diver although she has been competing in trampolines most of her life.



Sports

living on the edge

Trying to keep her balance, junior Christy Bumbales executes a lift as junior Ashley Wilson, sophomore Kimberly Reyome and senior Julie Newman cheer. The squad won a superior award at their summer camp at Purdue University, and Bumbales was awarded second place for her hurdler and toe touch.

get up and dance

Getting into the groove, senior Lora Melton performs during halftime of a basketball game. "The best thing about cheering is we all get along and have a good time," Melton said.



Matt Fitter

getting in the spirit

compiled by Susan Huss



Laurin Morgan



Laurin Morgan

as the season wraps up

MVP: Ashley Wilson

"It meant a lot because I worked hard all season to make the squad the best it could be."

Most Improved: Laura Blahunka

"I was surprised because the whole squad improved."

BMA: Lora Melton

"It was quite an honor because it shows that people care about your attitude, not just how good you are at whatever you do."

get with the beat

Trying to get things perfect, the cheerleaders practice one of their dances. "I cheerlead because I enjoy it and it keeps me in shape," sophomore Stephanie Dross said. "The best thing is trying to get the crowd involved."

cheerleading stunts:

hurdler

jump with 1 leg bent and other to front or side

basket toss

toss with stunt done in mid-air

toe touch

jump in the straddle position

they got the moves

Survey of GHS cheerleaders



Matt Fitter



pump it up

Pretending to be a fish, senior **Diana Ballas** competes against cheerleaders from other schools in a race to portray a word to her teammates at camp. Ballas was a co-captain of the cheerleaders and helped choreograph and call out their cheers. The squad decided not to compete in February, as they usually do, since they lost a cheerleader midseason and were unable to do all their stunts.



Loann Morgan



Front Row: Christy Bumbales, Stephanie Dross, Michelle Prewitt, Ashley Wilson, Diana Ballas, Lora Melton Back Row: Danielle Trueblood, Julie Newman, Kimberly Reyome, Laura Blahunka

down time

Taking a break at camp, the cheerleaders chat with their instructor. "[Our biggest strength is that] we work really well together as a group and all of us are really dedicated," sophomore **Laura Blahunka** said. The squad perfected several new stunts this season, including lifts such as the leberity, elevator, and express, and they also did basket tosses.



What was your favorite game to cheer for?

"The game during the football season against Andean. It was a really close game and the crowd got into it."

How has the squad improved from last year?

"We put forth a lot of effort in what we do and it shows a lot through the crowd's response. This year they are like, 'Wow, did you see that?'"

What are the squad's biggest strengths?

"This year we have the ability to stunt. We can throw and hold lifts that are considered elite stunts."

-Captain Ashley Wilson

the captain's word

stepping in

Joining in the fun, **Gaylla Somers**, senior Nick Crawford's mom, cheers for the football team with senior **Diana Ballas** and junior **Ashley Wilson**. Somers and other football players moms helped the cheerleading squad during the last football game against Lowell.

we're ready

Anxiously waiting to get into the game, seniors Emily Coddington and Sarah Bacan watch their team. Coddington and Bacan were both starters on the 97-98 team that won sectionals.

scores

Hebert: 59-32 W
River Forest: 64-33 W
Hammond High: 64-27 W
Whiting: 51-27 W
Merrillville: 46-37 W
Highland: 40-54 L
Wheeler: 64-47 W
Lake Station: 39-26 W
Andean: 41-45 L
Mooreville: 39-64 L
Western: 49-39 W
Elkhart Central: 57-43 W
Calumet: 66-28 W
Clark: 45-32 W
Lowell: 42-26 W
Morton: 63-42 W
Munster: 43-56 L
Hebron: 40-57 W
Bishop Noll: 58-12 W
Chesterton: 37-44 L
Gavit: 68-47 W
Scranton:
Gavit: 44-37 W
Bishop Noll: 45-27 W
Morton: 54-42 W
Regionals:
New Prairie: 62-51 W
Semi-State:
Alexandria: 50-35 W
Columbia City: 42-55 L



Matt Finer

as the season wraps up

MVP: Samatha Quintero

"I felt privileged that my team valued me that much to vote me as their MVP."

Most Improved: Elaine Parker

"I was really excited that my teammates thought that I improved enough to get that award."

BMA: Nancy Robles

"I was glad to know that my team recognized my attitude."

1st Team All Conference: Sarah Bacan and Amber Farr

2nd Team All Conference: Emily Coddington

Honorable Mention: Samantha Quintero



Matt Finer



Front Row: Elizabeth Potesta, Leslie Schoefield, Lauren Chappel, Lisa Carroll, Andrea Melendez, Rochelle Huber Second Row: Tiffany Kessler (mgr), Brenna McDaniel (mgr), Sarah Fry, Carissa Redden, Clarissa Farr, Allison Bridgroom, Kristen Buehler, Jacqueline DeYoung (mgr), Coach Carolyn Cusack



Front Row: Emily Coddington, Andrea Melendez, Sarah Fry, Nancy Robles, Elizabeth Potesta Second Row: Samantha Quintero, Crystal Nelson, Amber Farr, Annie Medsker, Kristen Oros Third Row: Coach Carolyn Cusack, Coach Don Salczynski, Sarah Bacan, Kathleen Vaneck, Elaine Parker, Head Coach Diana Wingus, Coach Gollumbeck



Matt Finer



Name: Samantha Quintero **Sports:** Basketball, Soccer, Softball
Position: guard **Grade:** 12

How hard was it having a new coach after having the same one for three years?

"It was hard at first because we were so used to Mr. Powers, but eventually we got used to Coach Wings and her style. Our team learned so much from both coaches and we attribute our success to them both."

Did you ever think that you would get this far?

"We always thought that we'd get really far and always said how awesome we were going to be our senior year."

How nervous were you going into the semi-state game?

"We were all really nervous right before the game, but when we started playing we were so excited."

not giving in

Fighting off two defenders, senior Nancy Robles tries to get a shot off. Robles has played basketball for her entire high school career and was on varsity for both of the sectional titles.

raising the roof

Walking towards the ladder, Head coach Dianna Wings raises her hands in excitement. This was Wings' first year as head coach of the Panthers and she lead them to be the most successful basketball team in Griffith's history.



The 1999-2000 Lady Panthers after winning sectionals at Calumet.

sectional/regional semi-state runner-ups

For the second time in 3 years, the Griffith girls won sectionals and for the first time won a regional and advanced to the semi-state finals. Here are some of the facts:

- * 6 of the 13 girls on the sectional roster this year were on the 1998 team when they won.
- * Senior Emily Coddington wore the same socks for every game of the season and never washed them.
- * The Lady Panthers went farther than any other Griffith basketball team by winning regionals and their first game of semi-state.
- * Seniors Sarah Bacan, Samantha Quintero and Emily Coddington made up a handshake called frogs when they were freshmen and have done it every game since then.



How excited were you to make history at Griffith your first year here?

"I am very proud of our team. Also, I feel very fortunate to be a part of what we accomplished.

The memories are something we can have with us always."

How hard was it for you being new and coming into a team that was already so established?

"The players on our team have played together since elementary school. This has been a huge advantage for us. We were able to identify each other's strengths and weaknesses and that made us a better team." -Head Coach Dianna Wings

The coach's breakdown

winning it all

Compiled by Julie Rutledge

wide open

Posting up, senior Elaine Parker awaits the pass. Parker won most improved for the season along with her boyfriend Michael Reyna who won MI for the boys' basketball team.



Sports

come get me

Waiting for the point guard to come down the court, senior **Matt Thon** gets ready to play defense for the Panthers. Thon broke his foot in the beginning of the season but recovered in enough time to play the last couple of regular season games and sectionals.



Matt Thon

as the season wraps up

MVP: Nicholas Jovanovich

"I was glad that everyone thought I was important to the team."

Most Improved: Michael Reyna

"I was happy to get it because it shows how hard I worked throughout the season."

BMA: Matthew Sherry

"I'm glad I won BMA because it's good to know my teammates and coaches recognize me like that."

1st Team All Conference: Nicholas Jovanovich

Honorable Mention All Conference: Matthew Sherry, Efrim Juarez, Kevin Wlazlo



Front Row: Hillary Bernath (mgr), Rachel Albright (mgr), Mallory Bernath (mgr). Second Row: Ryan Blythe, Neil Dimos, Jacob Malone, Milijan Lukalic, Ryan Zolcak. Third Row: Thomas Keown, Matthew Gonzalez, Matthew Mendenhall, Adam Lukas, Neil Oros, Joseph Tharp, Melanie Johnson (mgr)



Front Row: Hillary Bernath (mgr), Derek Blythe, Rachel Albright (mgr), Efrim Juarez, Mallory Bernath (mgr). Second Row: Melanie Johnson (mgr), Shawn Zolcak, Michael Reyna, Matt Thon, Demetrios Georgis, Stephen Flores (mgr). Third Row: Thomas Keown (mgr), Kevin Wlazlo, Nicholas Jovanovich, Jared Pierson, Matthew Sherry, Matthew Lira, Richard Lamendola (mgr)

What did you think of the new pre-game?



"As a player, I didn't really have time to get caught up in it because I had to focus on the game." -senior Matthew Sherry



"I think that the more action that there is the more the crowds gets pumped up and that pumps us up." -senior Demetrios Georgis



"It is a big boost for the team. It helps me get pumped up and creates a fun atmosphere that draws fans in to the gym." -junior Matthew Lira



"I like the new pre-game but it was kinda long and I think it gave the opposing team time to get ready mentally." -senior Derek Blythe





Matt Floner



Matt Floner

are you sure?

Contesting a call, head coach Jack Gabor argues with the referee at the first game of sectionals against Clark. The Panthers fell short of the sectional finals after losing to Calumet in the last seconds of overtime in the semi-final game.

playing the odds

Going up strong against three Clark Pioneers, senior Kevin Wlazlo takes the ball to the hoop. Wlazlo sat out at the beginning of the season after hurting his knee. When he returned from his injury, he was a regular starter.



Matt Floner

dribbling up

Bringing the ball up past half court, junior point guard, Efraim Juarez gets the team set up. Juarez started every game and was one of the two juniors on the varsity team. He received all conference honorable mention.

soaring high

Sailing through the air, senior Nicholas Jovanovich goes up for a dunk. Jovanovich was the team's captain along with senior Matthew Sherry. "Our coach taught us a lot of new things this year and I think we all learned a lot," Jovanovich said.



Were you happy with the way the season went?
"I was happy with the second half. The defense was great. It was one of the best in the area and in Griffith history."

What was the most memorable moment of the season for you?

"No one moment, the last 12 to 14 games of the year the team got a clue as to how to win. They worked hard and had fun to achieve our goal of cutting down the nets."

Are you looking forward to next year?

"It is going to be interesting. They (the kids) have to work hard in the offseason to be really competitive. It's in the players hands." -Head Coach Jack Gabor

the coach's breakdown

SCORES

Hebron:	65-57 W
Highland:	44-52 L
Lake Station:	58-37 W
Andean:	56-71 L
North Newton:	54-51 W
Munster:	37-73 L
Kankakee Valley:	63-55 W
Calumet:	55-50 W
Wheeler:	53-72 L
Lowell:	63-44 W
Hobart:	62-42 W
Morrison:	53-34 W
Munster:	55-58 L
Clark:	46-44 W
Bishop Noll:	52-45 W
Gavit:	54-46 W
Crown Point:	47-51 L
Hammond High:	41-58 L
Whiting:	50-48 W
Hanover Central:	55-29 W
Sectionals:	
Clark:	49-32 W
Calumet:	51-49 L

dribbling to the hoop

Compiled by Julie Rutledge

by the books...

100 Yard Dash: 13^{sec} leader: Kasheena Green

110 Hurdles: 17.7^{sec} leader: Deborah Race

1600 Run: 6:00 leader: Angelina Alvarez

3200 Run: 13:18 leader: Tiffany Juarez

400m Dash: 1:07 leader: Allison Banta

800 Yard Dash: 2:43 leader: Angelina Alvarez

Shot put: 32'9.5" leader: Kathleen Vanek

Discus: 80' leader: Kathleen Vanek

Long jump: 15'3.5" leader: Mary Belcher

High jump: 5'0" leader: Shauna Santare

good times

Hugging each other, juniors Shauna Santare, Michelle Gaddini, and Kasheena Green and sophomore Allison Banta and celebrate their advancement to Regionals as freshman Stephanie Pinkerton looks on. The four were on the 1600 meter relay team.



Victor Sendejov

hang time

Soaring through the air, freshman Kristen Buehler does her best to get the farthest jump in the long jump competition. Buehler also ran the 100 meter dash. "This was my first year in track and I wanted to perform well in long jump at Sectionals," Buehler said.



Victor Sendejov

as the season wraps up

MVP: Kasheena Green

"I tried to do my best in each event I ran. My major goal was to take our relay team to Regionals."

Most Improved: Ashley Enloe

"I was excited to hear that I won because I had worked so hard this season."

BMA: Mary Belcher

"I was honored because it was my senior year and I loved working with the Shroibers."

2nd Team All Conference: 1600m relay- Allison Banta, Michelle Gaddini, Shauna Santare, Kasheena Green 200m relay- Kasheena Green

Honorable Mention All Conference: 100m dash- Kasheena Green High Jump- Shauna Santare Shot Put- Katie Vanek



Victor Sendejov



What is this year's biggest accomplishment?

That we sent five events to Regionals and last year we only sent one.

What was different this year than last year?

We had a lower number of kids, but the attitudes were better and they all worked harder. The team chemistry was also a lot better. The team just got along really well.

What is your most memorable moment?

Watching the mile relay team pass up four kids in one lap during Sectionals.

How do you feel the team did this year?

I think they were successful, but with most of them coming back next year, we will be even more successful.

-Head Coach Eric Shreiber

the coach's headbun



Front Row: Cynthia Woerner, Shannon Scheidel, Jill Popovich, Vicki Juarez, Angelina Alvarez, Stephanie Pinkerton, Lindsay Govett, Tiffany Juarez, Ashley Enloe, Christina Redde. 00.n Second Row: Stephanie Bridegroom, Allison Banta, Lisa Carroll, Jessica Sherbit, Michelle Gaddini, Melissa Gaddini, Ayumi Yoshino, Lara Gonzalez, Colleen Vechey, Third Row: Mary Belcher, Renee Wotkun, Shauna Santare, Christina Saldana, Kasheena Green, Sara LeCounte, Kellie Sternberg, Kristen Buehler, Nastasha Cortez, Stacey Caron, Fourth Row: Asst. Coach Karen Pikosz, Eric Shreiber, Freclia McMillon, Deborah Race, Rachel Grimmer, Breanne Stegall, Sarah Fry, Asst. Coach Tim Mantel, Asst. Coach Adrienne Shreiber Not Pictured: Asst. Coach Jeff Chappell

sprinting to the line

compiled by Kellie Sternberg



Victor Sundjaja

fossin' it

Giving it all she has, junior Kathleen Vanek throws the shot put at the Calumet Invite. Vanek was the only member on the track team to advance to Regionals two years in a row for shot put.

What do you do?

have a pasta party

drink plenty of water

think about the race mentally

stretch and ice muscles

countdown to the meet



Matt Flitz

just streeching

Doing a back bend, junior Shauna Santare stretches at the Sectional meet at Highland. "Before every jump I'd stretch out my back so that I could arch it over the bar, because I don't have the ups to just jump over it," Santare said.

hurdle it

Flying through the air, junior Deborah Race makes sure to clear the hurdles at the Munster Invite. Race has been in track since her freshman year and she has participated in the 110 hurdle event and the 300 hurdles.

What's the hardest thing about track?



"Running the two mile because it's like sprinting eight laps and it's very tiring" - freshman Shannon Scheidel



"Being dedicated because some days I just don't feel like running at all." - freshman Vicki Juarez



"Running 600s at practice into the wind because it feels like I'm barely moving." - sophomore Lindsay Govett



"Having practice the day after meets because it's so hard since I'm so tired and my muscles are sore." - junior Angelina Alvarez

scores

Naal ECC, Roosevelt
Mount Assisi: 2nd place
LAC indoor invite: 4th place
Wheeler: 1st place
Hghd/Lk Station: 2nd place
Andreas/Munster: 3rd place
Highland invite: 8th place
Munster Invite: 3th place
Calumet Invite: 5th place
Hammond/Morton: 1st place
LAC meet: 7th place
Sectionals
Highland: 6th place

striving *to the finish*

Compiled by Teri Calhoun

favorite places

oakridge prairie

the dunes

ghs track

places to avoid

hammond track

whiting track

calumet track

Survey of the boys track team

where you like to run



Matt Fliter



Matt Fliter

above the rest

Using all his strength, sophomore **Danny Vessell** pole vaults during a track meet. Vessell has been in track since junior high and plans on continuing throughout the rest of high school.

one last turn

Making a final sprint, sophomore **Matthew Mendenhall** finishes his race at a Highland track meet. Mendenhall received Best Mental Attitude at the spring sports banquet.



Matt Fliter

using his legs

Gaining air, junior Craig Kovera competes in the long jump. Kovera was also on the 4x1 team with juniors Tyler Radtke, Michael Pettigrew, and senior Kyle Alexander. They were the only event that advanced to Regionals.



Matt Fliter

great skills

Using his powerful arms, junior Justin Grimmer throws a discus. Grimmer has participated in track as well as football since his freshman year.

scores

Us: 1st Highland: 2nd
Lake Station: 3rd

Calumet: 1st
Us: 2nd Gavitt: 3rd

Munster: 1st
Gavitt: 2nd Us: 3rd

Us: 1st Morton: 2nd
Hammond: 3rd

Hobart Little 5: 3rd

Lowell Relays: 2nd

Lake Athletic
Conference: 8th

What was your hardest school to run against?

"As a team our hardest school to compete against was probably Bishop Noll."

What was your team's biggest weakness?

"The fact that we only had four seniors made our team very young. We had about 50 underclassmen who will provide great skills in the future years."

What were your team's strengths?

"We were two to three deep in every event and not many schools have six pole vaulters."

- Head Coach Russ Radtke

the coach's breakdown

as the season wraps up

MVP: Craig Kovera, Tyler Radtke

"I thought I earned it because I ran really hard the whole season."

- Craig Kovera

Most Improved: Victor Sendejas

"It is good to know that Coach Radtke has recognized my mad skills."

BMA: Matthew Mendenhall

"I feel kind of honored to get it as a sophomore, and it really surprised me."

keeping it up

Sprinting toward the finish line, junior Michael Pettigrew gives it all he has. Pettigrew broke his arm and ran with a cast all season.



Front Row: assistant coach John Kollak, Jason Schultz, Sonnie Alreca, Mickey Simon, Eric Vechev, Shayne Dapshin, Steven Eason, Scott Hunsell, Keri Hill (mgr.) Second Row: Coach Tim Powers, Dan Pearson, Michael Carey, Paul Lewis, Sean Carey, Matt Horn, Mark Lewis, Jason Lundquist, Michael Pettigrew. Third Row: Coach Travis Walls, Matthew Fliter, Victor Sendejas, David Martin III, Brian Gerenda, Marcin Karbowiczek, Danny Vessell, Justin Grimmer, Gregory Bowers, Kyle Alexander. Fourth Row: Head Coach Russ Radtke, Timothy Swanson, Ryan Byrne, Steven Homoky, Neil Dimos, David Colby, Matthew Mendenhall, Matthew Najar, Marie Kuff, Bobby Lassiter, Nate Spitz, Adam Wilbur, Brandon Powell, Craig Kovera, Omar Gonzalez, Brett Rochetti, William Barriga, William Schmitz, Christopher Peacock, Tyler Radtke, Mark Amos, Jeremy Bryzcki.

Matt Fliter



Front Row: Sarah Handley, Lindsay Chuva, Sacey Larson, Jennifer Sims, Caryn Miller, Claire Hudack. 2nd Row: Michael Hernandez (manager), Rachel Albright, Holly Larson, Kelly Davis, Stacie Kapciak, Julie Cadie, Head Coach Joe White

backing *that racket up*

smacking the ball

Competing in a match, senior Christina Govert returns a serve. Govert has been on the tennis team for four years, but she felt that this year was the best.



Matt Fliter

pondering the play

Preparing for the hit, junior Stacie Kapciak steps up to the ball. The new coach, Joe White helped the team out. "We didn't have so much pressure from our coach as we did last year so we did a better job," Kapciak said.



Josh Meun

How would you sum up this season?

"This season the girls had the most fun and won more games since they have been on the tennis team. They also finished higher than previous years at conference."

How would you say the team changed from the beginning of the season to the end of the season?

"At first the girls were a little apprehensive because they had a new coach but by the second match we became a team."

How do you think the girls' attitudes affected the "Attitude is everything. The team's attitude is made up by the individuals and all the girls had positive attitudes."

-Head Coach Joe White

The coach's breakdown



Matt Fliter



Matt Fliter



Matt Fliter

it's all about the team

Revvng up, Coach Joe White preps his girls with a little pep talk. Before every game, he would get the team together and shout different sayings to get them pumped up.

give it your all

Swinging hard, junior Jennifer Sims takes aim. The girls used their teamwork skills to get them to the finals in the sectionals.

make your move

Deciding her play, senior Lindsay Chapa tries to get the serve back to her opponent. The team made second place in Conference.

as the season wraps up

MVP: Lindsay Chapa

"I played all four years and worked really hard so I was glad to get it."

Most Improved: Christina Covert

"I was really happy when I got most improved because I only lost one set in the entire season."

BMA: Stacie Kapciak

"I wasn't expecting it at all but I was happy to receive an award."

1st team all conference: Julie Cadle and Lindsay Chapa

What was your most

memorable moment?



"When the team made it into finals in the Sectionals. We improved so much from last year." -junior Stacie Kapciak



"When we beat Andean the second time because they said the first time was just luck." -junior Sarah Handley



"When we screamed 'up yours' in our huddle before playing Bishop Noll." -sophomore Kelly Davis



"The time I beat the girl from Lowell in three sets to help the whole team win." -sophomore Julie Cadle



Matt Fliter

bye,bye.bye

Reaching out, sophomore Julie Cadle stretches to make the connection. Cadle said being on the team helped build her confidence. "I thought this year was really good because I knew I had to win my matches to help the team and I was proud of my self when I won," said Cadle.

scores

Whiting: 5-0 W
Lake Station: 5-0 W
Chesterton: 1-4 L
Clark: 5-0 W
Bishop Noll: 3-2 W
Lowell: 3-2 W
Morton: 5-0 W
Calumet: 5-0 W
Munster: 0-5 L
Merrillville: 0-5 L
Highland: 2-3 L
Andean: 3-2 W
LAC Tournament
Calumet: 5-0 W
Andean: 3-2 W
Munster: 0-5 L
Sectionals
Hanover Central: 5-0 W
Lew Wallace: 5-0 W
Crown Point: 2-3 L

scores

Boone Grove: 2-1 W
 Chesterton: 1-3 L
 Crown Point: 7-5 W
 Highland: 5-1 W
 Lake Station: 6-5 W
 Andean: 0-1 L
 Hobart: 5-3 W
 Calumet: 16-0 W
 Morton: 0-5 L
 Lowell: 3-5 L
 Munster: 0-4 L
 Lake Central: 7-8 L
 Clark: 2-0 W
 Bishop Noll: 10-0 W
 Gavitt: 10-0 W
 Portage: 2-9 L
 Lake Central: 2-0 W
 Hammond: 17-1 W
 Whiting: 0-6 L
 North Newton: 7-1 W
 Shenandoah: 8-4 W
 Carmel: 4-3 W
 Twin Lakes: 1-6 L
 Valparaiso: 0-3 L
 Hanover Central: 0-0 Tie
 South Bend Riley: 2-5 L
Sectionals
 Andean: 5-3 W
 Boone Grove: 2-1 W
 Bishop Noll: 10-2 W
Regionals
 Lewis Cass: 5-3 W
 Twin Lakes: 3-1 W
Final Four
 Evansville Memorial: 0-3 L

switch up

Putting up a swing, junior **Julie Rutledge** bats against Bishop Noll during Sectional play. Rutledge batted both left and right-handed. "It just depends on the day," Rutledge said. "I start out batting one way and if I don't feel comfortable, I switch to the other hand."



Matt Fitter

give me five

Greeting each other after their Sectional Championship victory, seniors **Samantha Quintero** and **Sarah Bacan** share a high five. Quintero and Bacan were also on the basketball team that won Sectionals together, and they were co-MVPs for the softball team.



Matt Fitter

as the season wraps up

MVP: Sarah Bacan and Samantha Quintero

"It felt good because the year before I didn't do very well because I just got back from [knee] surgery. So to come back and get MVP was great." —**Samantha Quintero**

Most Improved: Sarah Rutledge

"I was surprised but happy that they recognized I stepped it up."

BMA: Samantha Adams

"I tried during the season to have a good attitude and help my teammates so it just feels good to get it from my teammates."

1st Team All Conference: Sarah Bacan, Samantha Quintero

All Conference Honorable Mention: Julie Rutledge

1st Team All Academic All-State: Jessica Everhart



Why do you think you did so well in the postseason?

"We had the girls so focused on Andean. Once they beat them, it was an eye opener. They realized they could beat the better teams, and they went with it."

What made this team special?

"All the girls itself. I told them they were the best high school team I've seen physically and mentally. I've never seen so much talent, from girl one through 18."

—Asst. Coach Dave Lopez

the coach's breakdown



First row: Tara Bumbales, Angelina Hanson, Elizabeth Poresta, Stefanie Kosowski Second Row: Julie Connell, Veronica Solis, Kaitlyn Suia, Rachelle Huber, Emily Giltmer Third Row: Holly Williams, Carolyn Joseph, Coach Candice Rossner, Sara Palmer, Angela Serrano



First row: Christy Bumbales, Samantha Adams, Andrea Melendez, Emily Coddington, Christen Nash Second Row: Carrie Giltmer, Sara Palmer, Lindsay Beige, Nicole Clarkson, Julie Rutledge, Carrie Petroski Third Row: Asst. Coach Candice Rossner, Samantha Quintero, Sarah Bacan, Head Coach Michelle Powers, Jessica Everhart, Nichol Popovich, Asst. Coach Dave Lopez



catch me

Hugging each other, seniors Jessica Everhart and Samantha Adame rejoice after beating Andrean in Sectionals. "The game against Andrean was probably the most intense, exciting game I've ever played in," Everhart said. "There was so much emotion, and everyone really gave 100 percent."

that's mine

Waiting for the ball to fall, senior Emily Coddington tries to catch a fly as fans watch on. Coddington played center-field and sophomore Elizabeth Potesta was her designated hitter. Coddington participated in three sports all four years of high school.



Matt Fliter



Matt Fliter

by the books...

Most RBI's: 30

leader: Samantha Quintero

Most Triples: 5

leader: Samantha Quintero

Most Doubles: 13

leader: Samantha Quintero

Most Base Hits: 46

leader: Samantha Quintero

Most Runs: 21

leader: Sarah Bacan and Samantha Adame

Most Home Runs: 2

leader: Sarah Bacan

Most Strike Outs Pitched: 98

leader: Julie Rutledge

Best Batting Average: .425

leader: Sarah Bacan

bringing it on home

Compiled by Susan Huss

sectional/regional champs *semi-state runners-up*

After beating number three state-ranked Andrean, the softball team went on to win Sectionals, and then Regionals. Here are some of the facts:

*Seniors Sarah Bacan and Emily Coddington and junior Andrea Melendez won Sectionals in all three sports they play this year: volleyball, basketball, and softball.

*Junior Julie Rutledge, freshman Nicole Clarkson, and seniors Samantha Quintero, Nichole Popovich, and Jessica Everhart each won two Sectionals this year.

*Sarah Bacan hit her first ever homerun in the second round of Sectionals to end a 14 inning war against Boone Grove. She hit another homer in the Regional Championship against the number one state-ranked Twin Lakes.

*Samantha Quintero shook Julie Rutledge's hand after every single play.

*This was the first year that there were freshmen on the varsity team.

*The team beat the number one and two state-ranked teams to win Regionals.

*The last time the softball team won Regionals was 1991.



The Lady Panther softball team poses with their Sectional trophy, their first since 1994.

scores

Highland: 172-183 W
 Lake Station: 156-234 W
 Calumet: 171-206 W
 Andean: 176-165 L
 Lowell: 177-165 L
 Munster: 171-164 L
 Morton: 174-181 W
 Clark: 169-199 W
 K.V. Inviter: 366
 Bishop Noll: 177-200 W
 Gavin: 188-196 W
 Hammond: 170-214 W
 Ubele Inviter: 342
 Whiting: 171-192 W
 Lou Isacchetti Inv.: 357
 C.P.N. Newton: 180-190 W
 LAC Conf. Try: 372
 Lake Central: 178-163 L
 Seniorals: 357

putting *on the green*

Compiled by Julie Rutledge

teeing off

Focusing on the ball, junior Brett Bierman drives the ball off the tee. "It was a fun season but kinda disappointing," Bierman said. "Mr. Parker is also leaving and we are all going to miss him."

golf dialogue

eagle
 birdie
 drop
 par
 bogey
 drop shot
 slice
 hook

nice and easy

Concentrating on his shot, senior Derek Blythe taps the ball towards the hole. Blythe won MVP for the season and also won GHS male athlete of the year. Blythe also played soccer and basketball for Griffith.

getting ready

Putting his ball on the tee, senior Paul Blahunka prepares to tee off. Blahunka finished second at sectionals right behind teammate Derek Blythe who placed first. Both advanced to regionals.



Josh Moon



Josh Moon



Front Row: Derek Blythe, Brett Bierman, Ryan Brady, Joshua Moon Back Row: Matthew Thon, Coach Larry Parker, Paul Blahunka



Front Row: Matthew Vanek, Andrew Frazee, Robert Wimberly, Kyle Mann, Mike Frye Back Row: Thomas Melton, Coach Larry Parker, Bryan King



Josh Moon



Were you happy with the way your team golfed this year?

"I was happy with them. We competed with all the schools and we never got blown away. I think that the varsity got out of the game exactly what they put in it."

Who really stepped up this year and golfed really well?

"Derek Blythe turned out to be my best golfer of the year and Josh Moon was my second."

What was the highlight of the season for you?

"Beating Highland the first match of the season [was the highlight]. They were one of the teams that we needed to upset to place high in conference."

-Head Coach Larry Parker

the coach's breakdown

as the season wraps up

MVP: Derek Blythe

"At the end of the year I worked really hard to reach my goal of advancing past Sectional and I did."

Most Improved: Josh Moon

"I started shooting well at the end of the season. I think that I improved a little bit every day as the season progressed."

BMA: Brett Bierman

"I was surprised to win BMA because I had a bad year and I didn't think that my attitude was that great."

2nd Team All Conference: Derek Blythe, Matthew Thon, Paul Blahunka

Sectional Medalists: Derek Blythe, Paul Blahunka

all the way

Coach Josh Rodriguez hits infield practice before a game as senior catcher **Christopher Brookhart** receives a throw home. This was Coach Rodriguez's first year coaching with the Panthers.

244 98

Number of
runs scored

Number of
runs allowed

but you
didn't know...

as the season wraps up

MVP: Christopher Hill

"I couldn't have done it without my defense. They came up with some great plays for me."

Most Improved: Jason Lebata

"I couldn't have done it without my teammates. They gave me the confidence to work hard throughout the season."

BMA: Mark Govert

"I was happy because I always tried to stay in good spirits and do whatever they asked me to do."

1st Team All Conference: **Michael Tomaszewski, Kevin Suba, Christopher Hill**

2nd Team All Conference: **Christopher Brookhart, Jason Lebata, Kyle Konopasek**



Victor Sendejas

hold up

Calling for time, junior **Matthew Callender** gets up from sliding into second base. Callender played shortstop, leftfield and centerfield for the Panthers.

reaching for it

Making contact, senior **Nicholas Crawford** concentrates on getting the bunt down. Crawford had the initials NT and CH on his spikes for Nicholas Taylor and his grandma both of whom had passed away.



Victor Sendejas



Victor Sendejas



Front Row: Nicholas Crawford, Kenneth Darnell, Christopher Hill, Thomas Zeller, Mark Govert Second Row: Jack Johnson, Kyle Konopasek, Christopher Brookhart, Eric Polgar, Michael Tomaszewski Third Row: Matthew O'Grady, Jason Lebata, Matthew Callender, Coach Brian Jennings, Kevin Suba, Anthony Porcusa, Asst. coach Josh Rodriguez



Front Row: Philip Cade, Ryan Zeleak, Craig Vuckich, Peter Bathurst, Brad Sawinski Second Row: Christopher Spiegel, Jimmy Sarkus, Matthew Gonzalez, Anthony Rodriguez, Nicholas Planer, Robert Hancher Third Row: Michael Neileman, Adam Lukas, Christopher Jackson, Coach Jeremy Skura



Victor Sendejas

pow wow

Taking a breather, junior Michael Tomaszewski gets a pep talk from Coach Brian Jennings and senior catcher Christopher Brookhart. Tomaszewski has been on varsity since his freshman year.

warming up

Playing catch, junior Kenneth Darnell warms up before the game. The baseball team decorated the girls softball team's locker for sectionals and the girls decorated their lockers the week later for their sectional.

scores

Highland: 10-7 L
Munster: 9-7 L
Wheeler: 7-4 W
Gary Roosevelt: 22-1 W
Highland: 7-0 L
Lake Station: 11-0 W
Andean: 7-1 L
Crown Point: 8-7 W
Calumet: 5-1 W
Lowell: 3-2 W
Chesterton: 16-2 W
Morton: 13-3 W
Munster: 4-3 W
Clark: 7-6 L
N. Judson: 19-1 W
Bishop Noll: 11-0 W
Gavit: 11-0 W
Lake Central: 12-6 L
Hammond High: 5-0 W
Whiting: 13-0 W
LAC Tourney: 2nd
River Forest: 16-0 W
E.C. Central: 8-1 W
Hobart: 8-6 L
Sectionals:
Bishop Noll: 7-0 W
Gavit: 8-2 W
Morton: 6-0 W
Regionals:
Benton Central: 4-1 W
Plymouth: 5-4 L



The 2000 Panthers after winning sectionals at Riverside Park in Hammond.

sectional champions regional runners-up

For the second year in a row the Panthers took home the Sectional trophy. They advanced to the Plymouth regional where they defeated No.1 Benton Central in the first game but fell short in the regional finals to Plymouth 5-4. Here are some of the facts:

- * 10 of the 20 boys on the sectional roster this year were on the team last year and 6 of the 10 were starters both years.
- * There weren't any girl managers on the team this year.
- * Coach Jennings wore his game jacket called a slick at every game. He cut off the sleeves so it wouldn't be too hot.
- * Before every game started the team would go down the right field line and form a huddle and after the huddle they would do a breakdown for Nicholas Taylor.
- * Jason Leбата asked Chris Brookhart before every game "How are the lobsters and the cannon?"

Who really stopped up this year and played well?

"Everybody because we lost 9 seniors but had returning starters. The sophomores and freshmen really bailed us out of a lot of situations."

What do you think has contributed to your team's success this year?

"Winning mentally contributed a lot to the success. Also the hard work of the players and coaches and the family mentality we have with this program."

What made this team different from teams in the past?

"This year's team was much closer and they didn't have the pettiness that players sometime have."

-coach Brian Jennings

the coach's breakdown

Compiled by Julie Rutledge
playing with the best



Front Row: Kelly Kearney, Christy Clark, Nicole Zakrzewski, Vicki Juarez, Tara Bumbales Second Row: Asst. Coach Shannon Brandon, Courtney Loudenber, Lisa Redar, Stephanie Staples, Ashley Babbitt, Emily Giltmier, Head Coach Tracy Miss



Carey Hecht

bet you
didn't know..

6-12

basketball

1-10

volleyball

pushing through

Dribbling past her opponents, freshman Lesley Schofield makes her way to the hoop. "Playing basketball can be stressful, but I keep at it because it keeps me in shape and it's fun," Schofield said.

ready to go

Stirring up the crowd, freshmen Tara Bumbales, Brianna Nagy, and Shannon Thiel cheer at a football game. Bumbales was the squad captain. Close to 20 girls tried out for the squad at the Little Girls Camp in June but only six were chosen.

bursting *onto the scene*

Compiled by Teri Calhoun & Susan Huss



Front Row: Nicole Gill, Angelina Hanson, Lesley Schofield, Amanda Laurencell, Shannon Scheidel, Vicki Juarez Second Row: Kristen Buehler, Christina Redden, Coach Don Salczynski, Rachel Craddock, Carolyn Joseph



Front Row: Tara Bumbales Second Row: Teri Calhoun, Brianna Nagy Third Row: Kristin Domsic, Rachel Grimmer, Shannon Thiel



What's your favorite sport to play and why?



"Softball because everyone is fun to be with and we all laugh and get along really well."

-freshman Christen Nash



"Cross country because of the friends I have made in it."

-freshman Christina Redden



"Volleyball. I've played it since fifth grade and I really enjoy it."

-freshman Vicki Juarez



Matt Fliter

good eye

Following the ball to the line, freshman Ashley Babbitt checks to see if it is out of bounds as freshman Courtney Loudember looks on. Loudember was the team's setter.

let it loose

Loosening up, freshman Kristen Buehler stretches for a basketball game. "Basketball was fun this year because I was on the freshman and JV teams so we got to support the varsity girls," Buehler said.



Corey Hecht



Matt Fliter



Matt Fliter

on the line

Waiting to take a shot, freshman Nikki Clarkon gets set to shoot a free throw. "I like to play basketball because my AAU coach, Mr. [Tim] Powers, is very enthusiastic and I enjoy the way he teaches," Clarkon said.

Corey Hecht

up and over

Passing a ball, freshman Vicki Juarez works with freshmen Stephanie Staples and Emily Giltmeyer to return the ball to their opponents. "I really liked volleyball because all of my friends were on the team. Even though we didn't have a winning streak, we tried harder each game," Staples said.

Why do you play sports?

"I like being competitive and sports keep me out of trouble."

-freshman Jason Lewis

"I enjoy the competition and I feel good when I wrestle."

-freshman Andrew Raduski

"Sports keep me from being bored after school."

-freshman Cliff Wilson

"I play soccer because it's fun being on a team with all my friends."

-freshman Corey Hecht

goi' for one

Shooting a freethrow, freshman **Nathaniel Fentress** looks to see if it'll fall while his teammates and opponents wait to rebound it. Griffith beat Lake Station in the game 35-25.

follow the leader

Carrying the ball, freshman **David Martin III** runs past his opponents in a game against Lake Central. Martin was the runningback for the freshman team.



Corey Hecht



Matt Pitzer



Corey Hecht



Front Row: Christopher Aitsander, Kevin Jerred, Kevin Christal, Ben Valerico, Justin Tristin, Jason Leal, Joey Boleaga, Matthew Vanek, Torian Morgan Second Row: Tabitha Black (mgr.), Sonnie Kireta, Scott Hald, Michael Carey, Brad Taylor, Justin Keelen, Nicholas Green, Robert Wagman, Mike Fry, Lindsey Watts (mgr.) Third Row: Quincey Ballas, Alexi Jimenez, Justin Hopkins, Jason Lewis, Marques Culver, Paul Lewis, David Martin III, Christopher Lillich, Terrell Strader Fourth Row: Coach Keith Mitchell, Ramon Garibay, Jeremy Glover, Douglas Scone, Eric Sims, Bradley MacFarlane, Damian Mitchell, Kevin Kail, Coach Jim Pickett



Front Row: Richard Burns, Brian Miles, Jeff Koopasax, Jason Leal Second Row: Jon Priender, Justin Hopkins, Raul Larios, Justin Tristin, Jordan Bares Third Row: Head Coach Doug Walling, Jason Lewis, Jeremy Glover, David Collier, Paul Golota, Robert Wagman, Asst. Coach Jason O'Donnell

making *their first appearance*

Compiled by Teri Calhoun and Susan Huss

hang time

Attempting a lay-up, freshman Jordan Buzea looks to score two more points for his team. Buzea was a starter for the freshman team, and he also played on JV. He also played baseball and soccer.



Corey Rich

one down

Jumping up, freshman Paul Gulota reaches for a fly ball. Gulota, who played first base, has played baseball since t-ball and plans to continue throughout the rest of high school.



Profile

Name: Jason Leal **Grade:** 9 **Sports/Positions:** Baseball (Centerfield), Basketball (Point Guard), Football (Safety)

Why do you like to play sports?

"It gives me something to do after school and it keeps me in shape. Plus, I'm good at it."

What was the best part of the year?

"I got a chance to play on the varsity basketball team. Not many freshman get a chance to play for varsity."

What is your favorite sport to play and why?

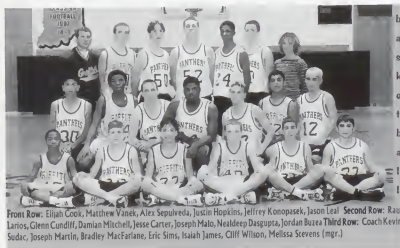
"It's a tie between basketball and baseball. I like playing them both, so I can't decide."

2-5-1 football

8-8 baseball

13-7 basketball

but you didn't know..



Front Row: Elijah Cook, Matthew Vaneek, Alex Sepulveda, Justin Hopkins, Jeffrey Konopasek, Jason Leal Second Row: Raul Larios, Glenn Cundiff, Damian Mitchell, Jesse Carter, Joseph Malo, Neeldeep Dasgupta, Jordan Buzea Third Row: Coach Kevin Soday, Joseph Martin, Bradley MacFarlane, Eric Sims, Isaiah James, Cliff Wilson, Melissa Stevens (mgr.)

gotcha

Trying to take down his opponent, freshman Eric Sims attempts a tackle. Sims played offensive linebacker and defensive linebacker. Sims played these muscle-requiring positions because at 6'2", he was the tallest person on his team.



Corey Rich

Sports

stop that ball

Catching the ball as it goes into the stands, senior Jason LeBata attempts to throw it back as junior Michael Pettigrew looks on. "It was really exciting how everyone came together at the girls' games to show school spirit," LeBata said.

rah rah

Cheering on their fellow students, seniors Kara Kniec, Lora Melton, Christina Govert, Nicholas Crawford, junior Matthew Callender, and sophomore Nate Spitz show their support for their team. Many students opted to dress up and act crazy to pump up the girls' basketball team, the most fan participation because they had a record breaking season.



Matt Fitter



Matt Fitter



Matt Fitter



"During my freshman year the football team beat Hobart at home and all of us students were running out on the field before the game was even over. It was so exciting to beat them."

-junior Lindsey Powers

"I was bet to slap the ref's butt at a basketball game one time for five dollars and he almost kicked me out. He told me to get back in my seat or I'd be sitting in the parking lot."

- junior Tyler Radtke



"At a basketball game, there was a Munster cheerleader doing backflips and I knew I could do what she was doing, so I ran on the court and copied off of her."

-junior Shauna Santare

"When I was a freshman cheering in the pit for a football game. It was exhilarating and extremely fun and rowdy."

-senior Colin Banta



"Getting dressed up really crazy and going to State to watch the football team. We did our hair all crazy and painted our faces. Even though we won by a lot it was such a fun game to cheer at."

-senior Nancy Robles

"Holding up signs at football games and yelling at the top of my lungs. One time I had play practice the next morning and I had to sing. That was kind of hard."

-junior Daniel Riordan



What was most memorable?

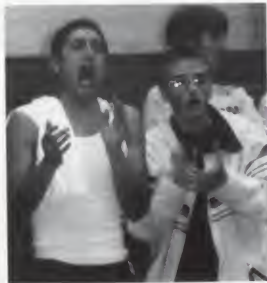
Fans tell it like it is



Matt Fliter

you go girl

Dressed up in a Pantherettes uniform, senior **Colin Banta** attempts to pump up the girls' basketball team as senior **Kyle Konopasek** looks on. "I enjoyed standing next to Colin and watching people point and laugh at him for dressing like a girl," Konopasek said.



Matt Fliter

looking good

Dressed up in a cut up t-shirt and army pants, senior **Nicholas Crawford** shows off his support with a painted face. "It was just a crazy thing I did, but it was fun because everyone really liked it," Crawford said.

jamming in the stands

Compiled by Candice Peters



Name: Christopher Brookhart

Grade: 12

Sport you always go to watch: basketball

Why do you go to the games?

"I go to support the basketball teams and cheer on my fellow classmates."

What is the definition of a fan?

"Someone who supports their team whether they win or lose."

What was the craziest thing you've ever done?

"When I dressed up in a wife beater (a white tank top) and an old grandma wig with a bunch of my friends at the game against Munster."



Matt Fliter

showin' school spirit

The whole school gathered in the main gym to cheer on the winter sports. Students were dismissed from their 7th hours to join in the first ever pep rally for the girls basketball team.

Another week of school begins, along with a week of meetings. Monday sometimes began with a Quill and Scroll or French Club meeting, followed by SADD on Tuesday morning and Bowling Club at Plaza Canes after school. Wednesday brought about the bi-weekly Student Council meeting in the morning and Art Club after school. National Honor Society was Thursday, and finally Spanish Club and Remnant on Fridays. And for the Pantherettes, practices were every day seventh hour.

Cooking around the school, the halls were plastered with signs advertising anything from Turnabout in late fall to the Senior Banquet in the spring. Though all these activities were very different they had one thing in common—all were set up, and organized by the members of the various clubs. Student Council took on the tremendous task of Homecoming, including the parade, Spirit Week and Activities Night. But when the talk in the lunchroom changed from the Homecoming activities to Turnabout dates, it was time for Sophomore Class Council to take over.

At 7:30 in the morning, when many students were rolling out of bed, plans for events such as the Blood Drive, fundraising events, the Food Drive, and fiestas were getting underway in different rooms around the school.

Our clubs were run by numerous students and countless sponsors, each doing their part to make sure things got done. Without these people, our school would not have been nearly as colorful, exciting, and fun as it was this year.

Organizations like Class Council and Student Council, handled our major extra-curricular activities with Homecoming, Turnabout and Prom. However, small clubs like Spanish and French Clubs, put on fiestas and de boum, which were just as much fun. All of these clubs had a major part in the parties, fundraisers and community projects of the year.

—Jessica Everhart and Eric Salczynski

Clockwise from top left: Sophomore Tamika Taylor, freshman Glenn Cundiff, and Junior Tashaya Taylor volunteer during a Spanish Club meeting in the AV wing. Grooving to the music, the Pantherettes perform during half time at a basketball game. Freshman Amanda Laurencell grabs a cup during a Spanish Club fiesta. Junior Omar Gonzalez, senior Caryn Miller, sophomore Kristin Lundquist and senior William Lavolette put together the SADD Pledge Banner that was hung at the Homecoming game. Junior Sarah Blanchard competes during the Spell Bowl competition held in the main gym. Behind: Students listen attentively during a Student Council meeting.







El Club de Espanol

Front Row: Nicole Love, Michelle Popovich, Elizabeth Potesta, Jaci Bolega, Nancy Robles (sec.), Lara Gonzalez (pres.), Bobby Lassiter (v.p.), Jernetta McDaniel (treas.), Angelina Hanson, Christy Bumbales, Elizabeth Guzman, Crystal Wilcox. Second Row: Irma Coddington (spon.), Vicki Juarez, Hillary Bernath, Michelle Cutka, John DeJesus, Amy Theodorio, Erin Ullrich, Andrew Augustyn, Janis Walenkiewicz, Meghan Taltz, Marissa Villaseñor, Mallory Bernath, Katherine Martinez (spon.). Third Row: Santos Zurita, Daniela Scheerling, Jessica Nieto, Selena Hernandez, Elizabeth Helfen, Rachel Albright, Alida Baldazo, Nastasha Cortez, Amanda Laurencell, Julie Cadle, Stacie Kapciak, Kate Higginbotham, Sarah Blanchard, Rebecca Mercks. Fourth Row: Jessica Radatz, Michael Becze, Jessica Guiley, Chantette Guise, Caryn Miller, Cassandra White, Trisha Fishman, Michelle Canero, Amanda Greulich, Erin Corvado, Tania Taylor, Courtney Schmidt, Joey Bolega. Lady Scholfield Fifth Row: Brittany Paul, Karen Kelly, Susan Hess, Carolyn Joseph, Valerie Soltanovitz, Sara Soltanovitz, Dana Zukanovich, Andrija Subotic, Tashaya Taylor, Charles Abasa-Nyarko, Ambar Piekarczyk, Justin Falk, Alexander Solis. Sixth Row: Marie Ritchey, Samantha Adams, Holly Zemlak, Nichole Goodwin, Jelea Damjanovic, Julian Gajewski, Cynthia Woerner, Jeffrey Cook, Andrea Melendez, Arianna Hecht, Tara Vaznonis, Tiffany Juarez, Jason Lebat, Samantha Quintero. Seventh Row: Robert Hanchar, Shauna Santare, Mira Damjanovic, Kathleen Vanel, Omar Gonzalez, David Haldi, William Barriga, Mark Ams, Jacqueline DeYoung, Stephanie Bridesroom, Beth Connell, Joseph Tharp, Christopher Jackson.



Bowling Club

Front Row: Nicole Love, Andrew Augustyn, Kyle Wolfe, Vincent Kepasi, Zachary Withers. Second Row: Ryan O'Keefe, Valerie Soltanovitz, Stacie Kapciak, Kristina Toth, Sara Soltanovitz, Robert Miller. Third Row: Marie Ritchey, Joseph Tharp, David Haldi, Christopher Jackson, Daniel Mills, Crystal Wilcox.



French Club

Front Row: Elizabeth Dash, Breanne Steagall (v.p.), Stephanie Beigle, Bobby Lassiter (pres.). Second Row: Scott Fech (spon.), Julie Purgert, Jernetta McDaniel, Amanda Nichols, Christy Bumbales.



Jeremy Martin

Glowing down, Darryl Carstensen, sponsor, juniors Richard Piszczek and Daniel Riordan, freshman Matthew Papa and sophomore Nicholas Demske relax during a bowling club banquet. Members of bowling club received certificates of participation.

Taking a break, sophomore Karen Kelly, Jo Marie Salczynski, chaperone, and senior Amanda Greulich watch their fellow members of Quill and Scroll play volleyball. The party was held at the high school the week before Christmas break.



Jeremy Martin



PARTY PLANNERS

the people who make it all worthwhile

Streamers, noise makers, junk food and, of course, lots of people are the ingredients for a party. But once the party is under way, it's hard to remember that someone had to organize the entire shindig.

"I have to call Villa Pizza to set a date, order trophies, and print certificates," Darryl Carstensen, bowling club, said. He plans the end of the season banquet because the bowling club has no officers.

Although there is a lot of work involved in pulling off a successful party, some find that it's fulfilling to put something together that a lot of people can enjoy.

"(The parties) really benefit the people that attend them," sophomore Jessica Gulley said.

"We have fun, we learn, and we have good get-together time," Gulley organizes parties for Remnant with junior Michelle Popovich.

During the party, organizers often find themselves doing odd jobs to keep the party running smoothly.

"I have to serve cake and other refreshments, hand out programs, and thank everyone for coming," Popovich said.

When everything is said and done, and the party is coming to a close, the party planners have a chance to sit back and reflect on the celebration.

However, the reflection can only last for a moment before the next part of the job: clean-up.

~Brianna Bieker & Jessica Nieto

Nothing 'Bout about \$700

Name: Justin Grimmer

Grade: 11

Activities: Vice-president of SADD

Why he says he's so important to SADD: "I have to organize and run the meetings. Also, I do things outside of meetings like arrange for speakers to come to our school."

What his sponsor says: "[He] always makes the time to care about others. That's what SADD is really all about, caring about others." ~Officer Marlene Starcevic



Annie Hecht



Annie Hecht

6lowing around, juniors Sarah Blanchard, Breanne Steagall and John Jensen and sophomore Adam Brownfield hang out at Miner Dunn before their Spellbowl competition. "We were making quarters stick to Adam's head to entertain ourselves," Blanchard said.

Keeping beat, sophomores Brittany Paul and Alida Baldazo and juniors Stephanie Bridegroom, Jennifer Sims and Kate Higginbotham get in line during a Spanish Club Fiesta. "Jaci (Bolsa) started walking around and everybody followed," Baldazo said. "I was just following Brittany."

Organizations

Getting the girls acquainted, Lisa Skura and Beth Connell teach a flag routine at Pantherette tryouts. In addition to practicing during their seventh hour the girls also practiced after school, on the weekends and during the summer to prepare for games and competition.

Arranging letters, SADD members junior Omar Gonzalez, seniors William Laviolette and Caryn Miller and sophomore Kristen Lundquist make the banner for the pledge drive. SADD held the pledge to not drink and drive at the Homecoming game.



Into the wee hours



Juniors Kellie Sternberg and Brandi Harveth

Name: Reflector

What they are: The yearbook staff at the school. They have 27 members consisting of editors, reporters, photographers and ad representatives.

Activities: Members of Reflector are responsible for attending mandatory production nights once or twice a week, every other week. They also have to work to finish the yearbook after school is over. All this is in addition to class time.

What a member says: "We spend so much time in the J-Room that it feels like a second home, but it's worth it when you see people enjoying your publications," senior Susan Huss said.

What the advisor says: "It's very time consuming and sometimes stressful, but overall it's the most rewarding part of my job," Carolyn Brown said.

GOING THE EXTRA MILE

Club members put in time to make sure the job got done

Putting a smile on an elderly woman's face isn't something people get the chance to do every day. For freshman Elizabeth Jones, it was a great thing to see after a lot of hard work getting the plants together.

"It feels really good helping people especially at Christmas time because not everybody has someone to visit them," Jones said. "For me the greatest gift I can give is free: making someone smile."

Student Council also went Christmas caroling at a nursing home and collected money on Halloween for children with cancer.

"We collected so much money for being such a small group," Jones said. "The project would have been even better if we could have delivered the check and seen the look on their families faces."

Senior Diana Ballas spent quite

a lot of time before, after and during school planning Student Council activities and acting in the drama department plays.

"It is really hard work being in a play. We spend two or three hours Monday through Thursday practicing so that we can give the best quality performance," Ballas said. "But hearing the crowd's applause at the end makes all the practice hours worth while."

Any officer of any club knows how much time and effort it takes to get things accomplished. According to Ballas, the only way to have a successful club is to have 100 percent student participation.

"It is so important for everyone to put forth just a small bit of their time," Ballas said.

The satisfaction of spending hours before and after school was often beneficial and rewarding.

~Teri Calhoun and Amanda Gracovich



Looking over the forms, Booster Club members juniors Veronica Solis and Carrie Petroski help juniors Lisa Carroll, Efrim Jaurez and Nikki Geffert register for next year at lunch. Members of Booster Club decorated lockers for the football players every Friday during the football season before school.

Teaching a Mexican dance, Irma Coddington, sponsor, has some fun with members of Spanish Club at a fiesta. Spanish club held many fiestas after school throughout the year and also took cultural field trips.

Reflector Staff



Front Row: Arianna Hecht, Jessica Everhart, Eric Salczynski, Stacy Dugard
Row 2: Jeremy Martin, Candice Peters, Kelli Schoon, Jessica Nieto, Colleen Vechev, Carolyn Brown (spon.) Row 3: Michelle Cuneo, Brandi Harveth, Susan Huss, Amanda Gracovich, Kelly Sternberg, Jocelyn Williams Row 4: Brianna Bieker, Matthew Filter, Julie Rutledge, Victor

Panther Press Staff



Front Row: Brooks Smith, Sarah Govers, Nicolas Kasbohm, Shannon Hammers, Kristen Collins, Joshua Moon Row 2: Mike Jones, Robert Jensen, Kimberly Keyome, Karen Kelly, Selena Saldana, Veronica Jacobs, Renee Wotkun, Carolyn Brown (spon.) Row 3: Derorah Race, Matthew Lira, Timothy Thirion, Anthony Pruitt, Jason Tomci

Quill and Scroll



Front Row: Jessica Nieto, Brianna Bieker, Jeremy Martin, Candice Peters, Jason Tomci (v.p.), Eric Salczynski (pres.), Colleen Vechev, Kelli Schoon, Brittany Parent Row 2: Jocelyn Williams, Susan Huss, Kelli Sternberg, Brooks Smith, Sarah Govers, Nicolas Kasbohm, Shannon Hammers, Joshua Moon, Kristen Collins, Julie Rutledge, Carolyn Brown (spon.) Row 3: Arianna Hecht, Michael Jones, Robert Jensen, Kimberly Keyome, Karen Kelly, Selena Saldana, Veronica Jacobs, Renee Wotkun, Stacy Dugard, Michelle Cuneo Row 4: Matthew Filter, Brandi Harveth, Deborah Race, Matthew Lira, Timothy Thirion, Anthony Pruitt, Jessica Everhart, Amanda Gracovich, Victor Sendejas

ROCKING THE COMPETITION

Pantherettes take home their first state title

Long car rides, rival schools, and hours of practice are all things the Pantherettes had to endure on the road to their first ever win at state competition, held at North Laurence High School Feb. 19.

Team work was felt to be a crucial part of the win.

"It was a team effort this year," senior **Lisa Skura** said. "We all made up the dance so it wasn't one person doing everything. We couldn't have won if we hadn't all worked so hard."

Sophomore **Marissa Sills** agrees that team work helped them win.

"There will always be seniority and things like that," Sills said. "But we all worked

together; we gave our best."

With team work also came confidence.

"I was really confident in our team," senior **Christina Govert** said. "From all the practices and the other competitions, we got to know each other's skills really well."

To senior **Madelyn Moore**, winning wasn't the only reason for going to contest.

"I just wanted to go out there and have fun no matter what happened," Moore said. "That is really the whole point of these competitions."

Whether the team went to state for fun or for glory, they accomplished both. ~**Patrick McCarney** and **Amanda Greivich**



Preparing for competition, senior **Matthew Sherry** throws a pot on the potters wheel in **Bob Witt's** class. Members of the art classes and Art Club exhibited pottery pieces, paintings and drawings at the Valparaiso Art Show.

Working with **Cynthia Spejewski**, choir, senior **Justin Albright** practices his solo for the All-State Choir competition. Members of the choirs and bands participated in the annual ISSMA solo and ensemble competition held in Indianapolis.



Stepping up

Name: **Stacy DuGard**

Grade: **11**

Activities: **Reflector Business Manager, Chapter V.P. and District One President of DECA, ICE**

Why she is so important at competitions: "I think that competitions are important because they are challenging. They also help you with your study skills because in DECA competitions you take written tests and role playing," said DuGard.

What her sponsor says: "I felt confident sending Stacy to competitions because she is a real go-getter and she has her head on straight," **Thom Howell**, DECA sponsor, said. "She had her goals and I knew that she would accomplish them."





Forming a wishbone, the Pantherettes perform at halftime of a football game. In addition to competitions the Pantherettes performed at halftime of every football and basketball game and marched in the Homecoming parade.

Getting in a quick nap in her hotel, junior Janis Walenkiewicz takes a break from the Spell Bowl competition. The spell bowl team took first place at the local competition held at Griffith in October.



Pantherettes



Front row: Mandy Moore (v.p.), Lisa Skura (pres.), Shauna Santaro, Lara Gonzalez, Beth Connell (hist.), Christina Govert (sec.) Row 2: Brandi Harveth, Christen Matozzi, Lindsay Powers, Janis Walenkiewicz, Abby Green Row 3: Christina Kovazos, Marissa Sills

All State Choir



Front Row: Marissa Sills, Stacie Kapciak, Diana Bailas Row 2: Michael Cervenak, Kimberly Reymore, Paul Dalach, Andjela Subotic Row 3: Brandon Smeiko, Amanda Nichols, Scott Negrete

Spell Bowl



Front Row: Andjela Subotic, Janis Walenkiewicz, Sarah Blanchard, Amy Walker Row 2: Jason Schultz, Lisa Skura, Shauna Santaro, Breanne Steagall, Selena Saldana, Jeffrey Cook, Victoria Anderson, Crystal Wilcox Row 3: Mira Damjanovic, John Jensen, Christopher Peacock, Matthew Najar, Arianna Hecht

Booster Club



Front Row: Christen Matozzi, Samantha Adams, Sarah Govert (sec.), Breanne Steagall (v.p.), Selena Saldana (pres.), Danielle Trueblood (treas.), Stephanie Reigle, Christy Bumbales Row 2: Nancy Robles, Heather Klein, Janis Walenkiewicz, Michelle Cook, Kimberly Frederick, Kristen Bushley, Kelly Gerdies, Angela Mazur, Jacqueline DeYoung Row 3: Sarah Bacan, Christina Govert, Michelle Prewitt, Elizabeth Dash, Lindsay Chappell, Laura Blahunka, Veronica Solis, Samantha Quintero, Kelli Schoon, Beth Connell Row 4: Elaine Parker, Sarah Fry, Renee Wotkun, Julian Gajewski, Julie Rutledge, Shauna Santaro, Kimberly Reymore, Andrea Meisner, Lisa Carroll, Rachel Grimmer, Amber Farr



Front Row: Jessica Guley, Michelle Popovich, Michelle Bagwell Row 2: Kristin Lundquist, Kristen Salczynski, Jessica Nieto, Jennifer Laffoon, Julie Ristic, Rachel Thomas Row 3: Stacie Kapciak, Karen Kelly, Elisabeth Helfen

Remnant



First Row: Karen Ford, Julie Ristic, Amy Walker, Lauren Diehl, Kristen Salczynski, Rachel Sherruzzi, Amber Price Row 2: Ben Weatherford, Derek Blythe, Valerie Sakanowicz, Ryan O'Keefe, Shawn Zolcal, Carey Baccino, Kathryn Mauch Row 3: Juliann Galewski, Sara Sakanowicz, John Frye, Michael Bakker, Ryan Sutton, Nathan Peacock, Kristina Teoh, Courtney Ostrowski Row 4: Bryan King, Matthew Najjar, Christopher Peacock, Matt Thom, Kyle Alexander, Robert Dunny, Jim Graft

Art Club



Front Row: Carrie Labuda, Kristian Collins, Christina Cavazos, Caryn Miller (treas.), Justin Grimmer (v.p.), Amanda Grevich (pres.), Brannon Szagall (hist.), Michelle Guseo (sec.), Jessie Rankin, Nicole Love Row 2: Stephanie Beigle, Marissa Villaseor, Cassandra White, Elisabeth Jones, Jessica Nieto, Britany Paul, Jennifer Sims, Sarah Raybourne, Erin Ulrich, Jodi Bologna, Officer Marlene Stancovich (spons.) Row 3: Michelle Popovich, Rachel Thomas, Rachel Albright, Julie Cadle, Robert Jensen, Kimberly Frederick, Lindsay Beigle, Veronica Jacobs, Kelli Schoon, Alida Baldaro, Ryan O'Keefe, Heather Klein Row 4: Mallory Bernath, Justin Falk, Lisa Carroll, Jason Alexander, Susan Huss, Vanessa Hooper, Elisabeth Helfen, Erin Gervais, Kevin Coy, Claire Huchins, Sarah Govers, Anne Medsker, Hillary Bernath Row 5: Kristin Lundquist, Melanie Johnson, Cynthia Woerner, Rachel Grimmer, Mirjana Vlahovic, Julie Rutledge, Karen Kelly, Andrea Melendez, Carolyn Joseph, Jelena Damjanovic, Kelly Davis, Stacie Kapciak Row 6: Juliann Galewski, Veronica Solis, Heather Mladenik, Kathleen Vanek, Omar Gonzalez, Tabitha Chavez, David Haldi, Matthew Najjar, Justin Sidor, Brandi Harveth, William Lavolette

SADD



Checking out their choices, seniors Julie Newman, Melissa Hart, and Tammy Heft decide which class motto, flower, colors, and song they like best at a Senior Class Council meeting. The group also planned the Senior Banquet.

Talking things over, senior Eric Salczynski leads a Quill and Scroll meeting. Quill and Scroll, a combination of the yearbook and newspaper staffs, held several events such as a banquet and work-in. "It was hard work to get the activities planned, but it was worth it in the end," Salczynski said.





IN THE WEE HOURS

Clubs accomplish tasks during morning meetings

No one really realizes all the time that is spent preparing and organizing the events that different clubs do, and all this is accomplished at their meetings. Most clubs have open meetings, but some have mandatory meetings, like the National Honor Society (NHS).

"We have mandatory meetings once a month that everyone has to attend. If they don't show up, or are late, then they have to pay a little fine," Cynthia Spejewski, choir, said.

Showing up at meetings is a very important part in participating in a special club.

"People have to go to meet-

ings because we need to get a variety of peoples' ideas and suggestions," NHS president Jessica Everhart said. "Without meetings things would be hard and very unorganized, and we wouldn't be able to get much done."

Also, without attending meetings you would never know what was in the planning next.

"At our meetings we plan and set up events, like all of our different charity events that we hold throughout the year, so it is very important that people attend the meetings," Everhart said.

~Kristen Buehler and Susan Huss

Come together

Name: Student Council

Participation: Anyone in grades 9-12 who fills out an application can be in it. Elections are only for the officers. Activities: Homecoming Parade, Activities Night, Talent Show, Food Drive, Meals on Wheels, Visiting the Nursing Home, Tutoring

What the sponsor says: "Meetings help with organization, with the direction your group is going in, and they allow for participation. They give you a feel for how dedicated the group is going to be. You know that if no one shows up, you won't be able to do much," said Tim Powers.



Michael Bezze and Carolyn Joseph



Passing around a copy of the design for the Homecoming 1999 T-shirt, juniors Kelly Gerdes and Katie Vanek attend a pre-Homecoming Student Council meeting. The club decided on what the Homecoming shirts would look like. Gerdes was the chairperson of the committee that planned indoor Activities Night in case of rain.

Taking minutes, senior Lora Melton keeps track of things during a Booster Club meeting. Melton was secretary of the club, which decorated lockers for athletes.

PAINTING THE TOWN

ACES members enjoy time in the city

Walking around Chicago, visiting record stores, and seeing a play may not seem like a regular school field trip, but for members of ACES [Academic and Creative Enrichment for Students] it is.

The ACES groups took their field trips to Chicago. Each trip the group went to see a play, ate out, and occasionally had time to walk around the city.

"When they give us enough time it can really be fun," said sophomore **Jonathan Rogowski**. "I go to the Crow's Nest, a record store, every time."

The ACES group went to see various types of plays ranging from *Footloose* to *Romeo and Juliet*. Each play they went to

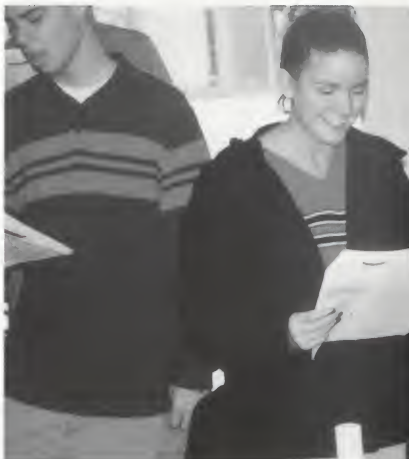
brought a new experience and interesting plots.

"I thought the musical [*Fosse*] was well done," said freshman **Nicole Clarkson**. "The acting at the beginning and the jazz music at the end was really good."

According to the sponsor, **Lawrene Hawthorne**, each trip held more for the students than just eating lunch at a nice restaurant or going to a play.

"I took them to the plays because I wanted to show them that there was more to Chicago than just sports teams," said Hawthorne. "I wanted them to see the cultural side of Chicago."

~Roy LaBarge and
Amanda Grcevich



Jessica Everett



Annie Treco

Chatting while waiting to eat, Spanish Club sponsor **Katherine Martinez** and sophomores **Kristen Lundquist**, **Courtney Schmidt** and **Karen Kelly** discuss the Ballet Folklorico they attended at Merrillville High School. Spanish Club went places that helped teach Spanish culture.

Taking a break from class, junior **Selena Saldana**, senior **Colleen Vechey**, and juniors **Candice Peters**, **Sarah Covert**, and **Kellie Sternberg** relax at the Embassy Suites in Atlanta, Georgia at the National Journalism convention. "I had fun because I became closer with the people I went with," Sternberg said.



Jerome Martin

Having some fun...

Name: Choir

Department

Activities: A variety of trips to places such as a cruise from Florida to the Bahamas.

Why what they do is important: They use their musical talents to entertain when they go places.

What the sponsor says: "I take them

on field trips because it broadens their horizons and gives them all the experiences possible," choir sponsor **Cynthia Spejewski** said.

What a member says: "We go to a lot of places and sing, like the Bahamas," senior **Pamela Sims**, who plays the piano for Chorale, said. "We played on the ship, which was hard because the boat was rocking. The Bahamas were cool, even though we were only there for about eight hours."



Selena Saldana



Holding her new friend's hand, junior Kelly Gerdes chats with an elderly woman at Dyer Nursing Home. Gerdes went with Student Council and sang Christmas songs at the nursing home to help raise the elderly peoples' spirits.

Admiring a picture created by Amy Walker, junior Amber Price looks over exhibits at the Secondary School Showcase at Valparaiso University in March. Members of Art club and students in the art classes submitted eleven works to the show, five of which won awards.



Kelli Shoen

Ninth Grade Aces



Front Row: Nicole Clarkson, Teri Calixum, Kandall Johnstone Row 2: Patrick McCarney, Alexandra Solis, Steffen Rader, Mary Turkowski, Amanda Cervantes, Lawrence Hawthorne Row 3: Lisa Staulbaum, Charley Hancock, Adam Ryzak

Tenth Grade Aces



Front Row: Nicole Love, Jeremy Martin, Angela Matz, Lawrence Hawthorne Row 2: Kimberly Reymore, Brianna Bieker, Jimmy Sarkus, Renee Wotkun, Michael McCarney Row 3: Joseph Sharp, Christopher Jackson

Eleventh Grade Aces



Front Row: Janis Walenkiewicz, Selena Saldaña, Lawrence Hawthorne, John Jensen, Paul Dulach, Justin Grimmer



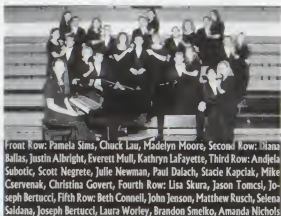
Front Row: Thom Howell sponsor, Stacy DuGard, Salina Muro, Julie Schuringa, Erica Quiroz, Tabitha Chavez, Second Row: Karen Ford, Amy Theodosio, Heather Mladenik, Justin Albright, Gregory Borden, Third Row: Ed Tropp, Eric Polgar, Michael Baker

DECA



First Row: Rachel Chandler, Kathryn Ramsey, Nicole Love, Amy Goodson, Nicole Mousi, Stephanie Begle, Second Row: Jessica Gaffey, Mallory Bernath, Leticia Cullens, Nickole Durron, Hilary Bernath, Allison Ranza, Elizabeth Potesta, Third Row: Elizabeth Dush, Hannah Zinke, Kary Maltgen, Veronica Jacobs, Kathryn Schoon, Rachel Albright, Sarah Rayboorne, Brittany Parent, Fourth Row: Marie Ritchey, Jelena Dambjanovic, Danielle Trueblood, Beth Loudenber, Karen Kelly, Kelly Davis, Jessica Nieto, Tashaya Taylor

Choralettes



Front Row: Pamela Sims, Chuck Lau, Madelyn Moore, Second Row: Diana Ballas, Justin Albright, Everett Mull, Kathryn LaFayette, Third Row: Anjela Subotic, Scott Negrete, Julie Newman, Paul Dalach, Stacie Kapciak, Mike Cservenak, Christina Govert, Fourth Row: Lisa Skura, Jason Tomcsai, Joseph Bertucci, Fifth Row: Beth Connell, John Jensen, Matthew Rusch, Selena Salidana, Joseph Bertucci, Laura Worley, Brandon Smetko, Amanda Nichols

Chorale



Anne Hecht

Glancing at his subject, senior Michael Bakker makes a caricature of senior Brooks Smith. During the D.E.C.A. sponsored Career Fair, Bakker helped to raise money for DECA's debt.

Making a page in a scrapbook, freshman Julie Connell cuts a picture at a Pantherettes sponsored fundraiser. They sold tickets to a class where people were taught creative ways to preserve their pictures in scrapbooks.



Anne Hecht

IF I HAD A MILLION DOLLARS

Clubs hold fundraisers to earn money

Fundraisers held this year were a new and exciting success that clubs participated in to raise money for trips or just to cover the clubs expenses.

Chorale went on a trip to the Bahamas that cost each member around \$800, between the cost of the plane ticket and spending money. There was no amount that each member had to raise, but whatever amount that they did raise they would only have to pay the difference.

Junior **Selena Saldana** was able to raise \$500 by doing fundraisers.

"One of the fundraisers we did was we would send letters to businesses saying we were trying to raise money and if they had money they would

send us money," Saldana said. "We sold candy and gifts and we also did a fundraiser through Carson Pirie Scott where we sold coupon books to customers and they could come and shop at different hours."

The Pantherettes had little girls camp, sold walking tacos at some home games and they also had a car wash.

According to senior **Lara Gonzalez** they needed to raise money to buy new uniforms, warm-ups and new jumpsuits.

"Pantherettes is very expensive and doing fundraisers helped cover all of the costs for things that we needed for state and other competitions," Gonzalez said.

-Kellie Stenberg and Colleen Vechey

Wife in the Money...

Name: Jessica Nieto

Grade: 10

Activities: Spanish Club, Student Council, Choir, Reflector

Why fundraising is so important for Choir:

"It was important that each member went out door to door to raise money, so I tried really hard to get people to buy things from me, so I could sell as much as I could."

What fundraisers were done? Sold Christmas and Easter things, sold steaks and cookie dough



Annie Hecht



Joshua Moon



Kelli Schwan

Checking boxes of food, seniors **Christina Covert** and **Laura Worley** look over boxes of food for the food drive. Student Council organized the food drive.

Waiting for customers, senior **Nathan Pollock** sells jewelry. Pollock made the jewelry himself and had his own booth at the Park Full of Art during the Fall Harvest.

Helping out, senior **Anne Medsker** pours a glass of punch for junior **Shauna Santare** at this year's Honor Society induction. Santare was elected treasurer for next year's Honor Society.

Fipping through the pages of an advertisement, junior **Sara Palmer** finds a booth that interests her. DECA put on the second annual Career Fair in the field house in May, which gave students a chance to see what sort of job opportunities were out there.



Working the career fair



Name: Laura Anderson

Grade: 10

Activities: DECA, choir

Why she is so important to DECA: "I wanted to join (DECA) because it sounded interesting to learn about how to run a business. Most of the people in DECA are seniors so they'll be gone next year. The only juniors will be me and my friends."

What her sponsor says: "She's a hard worker and took the opportunity to get started with her career interests. I think that's important," Thom Howell said.

HELPING HANDS

Clubs contribute to some community projects

Adults often have the misconception that all teens think about is themselves, but students in Honor Society and Student Council proved them wrong lending a hand in some community projects.

During Halloween, Student Council members raised money for the Children's Hospital in Chicago. While their friends were busy collecting candy, members traded in their plastic pumpkins for cans to collect money in.

"We've got to go trick-or-treating for at least the past 10 years of our lives,"

sophomore Jessica Nieto said. "I think the least I could do is give up one night to help someone that needs support more than I need candy."

Honor Society also organized an event to help others: a blood drive. Despite sweaty palms in the week before the blood drive, the project ended in success.

"It was on the anniversary of Columbine," senior Lora Melton said. "A lot of kids said they weren't coming to school, but the people involved were all good leaders and helped out."

~Brianna Bieker



Lyng back, senior Danielle Hennes prepares to give blood. Out of the 106 people who came, Honor Society was able to collect 78 good pints of blood.

Good tidings they brought as juniors Kelly Gerdes, Greg Bowers and Paul Dalach go caroling at Dyer Nursing Home. "I like seeing the reactions and the impact I had (on the people) when I sang for them," Gerdes said.

Honor Society



Front Row: Lora Melton, Sarah Blanchard, Andriela Subotic (sec.), Jessica Everhart (pres.), Victoria Anderson (v.p.), Selena Saldana (treas.), Janis Walenkiewicz (hist./parl.), Abby Forbes Row 2: Jack Boleaga, Kate Higginbotham, Anne Medsker, Susan Huss, Dana Zukanovich, Veronica Solis, Lindsay Beigle, Caryn Miller, Jennifer Laffoon Row 3: Christina Govert, Melissa Petersen, Nicole Popovich, Brandi Harveth, Justin Grimmer, Amanda Nichols, Gregory Bowers, Shauna Santare, Laura Worley, Justin Falk Row 4: Paul Dalach, Bobby Lassiter, Breanne Stegall, Mira Damjanovic, Kathleen Vanek, Matthew Sherry, Jason Tomcsi, Beth Connell, Amber Farr, Scott Negrete

Student Council



Front Row: Jeremy Martin, Mirjana Vlahovic, Ashley Babbitt, Heather Schultz, Nicki Gelfert, Lisa Stalbaum, Kelly Owsarzala, Nicole Gill, Michael Hernandez, Michelle Ciska, Zachary Withers Row 2: Kate Kessel, Lora Melton, Teri Calhoun, Jillana Damjanovic, Christina Saldana, Christina Redden, Nancy Robles (sec.), Diana Ralusa (pres.), Jason Tomcsi (v.p.), Paul Dalach (treas.), Heather Cope, Christy Iumbale, Emily Gierman, Christy Clark, Shawn Zolcak, Christen Nash Row 3: Stacey Caron, Kate Higginbotham, Freida McMillon, Allison Gatlin, Summer Granter, Lisa Carroll, Sarah Govert, Laura Bihunka, Kimberly Reymore, Danielle Hennes, Kimberly Frederick, Julie Rutledge, Lindsay Beigle, Ryan O'Keefe, Stacie Kapczak, Heather Klein, Ashley Senoo Row 4: Shannon Thiel, Carrie Lalaba, Veronica Jacobs, Kellie Sternberg, Sara Palmes, Elliot Miller, Andriela Subotic, Melissa Stevens, Rachel Grimmer, Brianna Nagy, Melissa Powell, Brad Sowinski, Robert Jensen, Candice Peters, Brittany Parnes, Tiffany Kender, Jessica Nieto, Stephanie Beigle Row 5: Amanda Berra, Jennifer Thompson, Renee Wolfman, Kristin Buehler, Megan Stepien, Julie Connell, Christina Govert, Laura Worley, Sarah Berra, Jada Newman, Nicole Popovich, Melissa Bowers, Samantha Quintero, Anne Medsker, Malory Bernath, Kathryn LaFayette, Colleen Vachey, Kendall Johnson Row 6: Samantha Adams, Stacey Schaefer, Bailey Parker, Melissa Hart, Dana Zukanovich, Amanda Grovich, Victoria Anderson, Michelle Gaddini, Julian Gajewski, Andrea Melendez, Charles Abasi-Nyarko, Susan Huss, Trisha Fleishman, Michelle Caneo, Justin Falk, Michelle Bagwell, Tara Huenbels Row 7: Janis Walenkiewicz, Dawn Sterruzzo, Elaine Mazalaz, Elizabeth Quah, Justin McDonald, Jelena Damjanovic, Shauna Santare, Nate Spiz, Robert Hancher, Bryan King, Christopher Jackson, Stephanie Staples, Jessica Everhart, Gregory Bowers, Valerie Siltanovich, Sarah Blanchard, Hillary Bernath Row 8: Marissa Villaseca, Elizabeth Jones, Rebecca Minks, Jernetta McDaniel, Kathleen Vanek, Breanne Stegall, Kevin Wiazlo, Omar Gonzalez, William Bariga, Matthew Lewis, Jason Lebach, John Jensen, Beth Connell, Mira Damjanovic, Heather Mladnick, Andrew Augustyn, Kelly Gerdes



Front Row: Christen Math, Trianna Nagy, Kristen Buehler, Teri Calloway, Elizabeth Jones, Stacey Caron Row 2: Valerie Saltanovitz, Carolyn Joseph, Megan Steapleton Row 3: Jon Melendez, Rachel Grimmer, Corey Hecht, Stephanie Staples, Lisa Stalbaum

Freshmen Council



Front Row: Lindsay Gower (sec.), Lauren Chappell (treas.), Brittany Parent (pres.), Ryan Blythe (v.p.), Jeremy Martin Row 2: Elizabeth Potesza, Heather Klein, Veronica Jacobs, Emily Jennings Row 3: Holly Williams, Renee Wotkun, Christopher Jackson, Kimberly Keyome, Jessica Nieto

Sophomore Council



Front Row: Jason Alexander (treas.), Breanne Stegall (pres.), Sekena Saldana (v.p.), Stephanie Beigle (sec.) Row 2: Kelly Gardes, Carrie Petroski, Sara Palmer, Candice Peters, Jillian Toltsis, Sarah Gower Row 3: Melissa Gaddini, Veronica Solis, Kevin Cap, Sarah Fry, Lindsey Powers

Junior Council



Front Row: Jason Connel (treas.), Victoria Anderson (pres.), Laura Worley (v.p.), Lori Melton (sec.) Row 2: Julie Newman, Nichole Popovich, Cassandra White, Anne Medsker, Samantha Adame, Shawn Medsker Row 3: Russ Radtke, Marissa Villaseñor, Claire Hudcun, Bonnie Eddy, Caryn Miller, Colleen Vechev, Jaci Boleaga, Lisa Hartman, Barbara Deleget Row 4: Melissa Hart, Elaine Parker, David Colby, Vanessa Hooper, Jessica Everhart, Sarah Bacan

Senior Council

Teaching techniques, seniors Beth Connell and Lisa Skura help new recruits learn the flag routine for Pantherette tryouts. Connell and Skura served as historian and president, respectively.

Giving out ideas, senior Victoria Anderson conducts a Senior Class Council meeting. Anderson served as president of Senior Class Council, which was responsible for such things as building a homecoming float and picking class memorabilia.



Anne Hecht



Anne Hecht



LEADERS OF THE PACK

Student leaders bring things together

It takes a few extra things to lead a club. To lead a group of forty or so students and do things that are worthwhile can take a little something more than just your everyday responsibility and commitment. It can take things such as innovation and a willingness to listen.

"To be a good leader people need to try to get along with everybody and come up with new ideas," senior **Lara Gonzalez** said. "You can't do the same thing as everybody else."

Being a leader also means doing the work behind the scenes. Getting things going

and following through can be a big part of leading an organization.

"Making sure a job gets done and taking responsibilities for your actions is a lot of being a leader," freshman **Brianna Nagy** said.

For all the craziness that it brings, being a leader brings its rewards.

"Leadership is a responsibility I take seriously," senior **Jason Tomcsi** said. "Although sometimes it doesn't seem worth all the trouble, I would never stop."

~Amanda Grcevich

Follow the leader



Amy Hest

Name: **Bobby Lassiter**
Grade: 12
Activities: Spanish Club Vice-President, French Club President, manager at Pizza Hut

What his sponsor says: "His leadership skills are excellent. He is a take charge type of person, doesn't hesitate to speak his mind and he is very organized," **Irma Coddington**, Spanish Club Sponsor
What he says about being a leader: "Leadership positions are necessary to keep things going in a positive forward direction," Lassiter said. "I think that leadership positions are awesome because not only does it show the world you have the skills to teach and lead people, but it also shows you believe in yourself. Some positions can be quite stressful, but the life lessons they teach are well worth it."



Amy Hest



Jason Tomcsi

Forming an assembly line, Junior Class Council members **Veronica Solis**, **Candice Peters** and **Sarah Fry** sell prom tickets to senior **Justin Newell** and junior **Jeremy Brycki**. "It was exciting being involved in planning prom," Fry said. "It was a lot of fun to be in on [prom planning]."

Talking to members, senior **Diana Ballas** leads a discussion at a Student Council meeting. Ballas served as Student Council president for two years and helped to plan such activities as homecoming, Trick-or-Treat for Children's Memorial Hospital and meals on wheels.

Organizations

WORKING TOGETHER

Students combine their ideas to get the job done

Expressing their unity club members joined together to get the job done. Some clubs such as Spanish Club, Student Council, and Bowling Club have decided that working as a team rather than just depending on one person to get something done was a great way to get things done.

"It was something new for me this year because last year when I was in the same clubs a person would say they were going to do things and wouldn't. That one person not doing their job would cause the whole club to suffer," sophomore Spanish Club member **Kristin Lundquist** said. "Working in committees made sure the job would get done because we weren't depending on just one person."

Most people enjoyed working as a team not just because a lot of work was accomplished, but because there was a lot of fun and most seemed to enjoy themselves while doing work.

"I really enjoyed getting to work with other people because it got a lot of people out of their usual cliques," said freshman Student Council member **Heather Schultz**.

As the year went by many fundraisers, get togethers, field trips, and other projects were done and with all of them there was teamwork involved. Along with knowing that they got many things accomplished, students also look back at the new friends they made and all the fun they had.

~Jessica Nieto



Amie Hech



Amie Hech

DECA members **Stacy Dugard** and **Ed Tropp** prepare for another day of selling cookies and other goodies. DECA also started selling balloon bouquets for special occasions.

Working together seniors **Jason Tomcsi** and **Laura Worley** organize senior packages for graduation. Senior class council members were in charge of making some memories for their fellow classmates. "We had to pick out our class motto, song color, and flower hoping that everyone would be ok with it," Worley said.



Amie Hech

Building a team...

Name: **Michelle Popovich**

Grade: **11**

Activities: **Remnant, SADD, Spanish Club**

Why she is so important to Remnant: "I have to plan a lot of things like lessons for Fridays and the baccalaureate," said Popovich. "It's a lot of work but I enjoy getting to know a whole other side of people because we're our own special team."

What her sponsor says: "Michelle is very responsible and it is noticable that she cares a lot about Remnant and is very dedicated to her duties as president," said Remnant sponsor **Lisa Bubala**.





Communication is the key to getting things done is what student council members learned as the year went by. The council and they worked on many projects. "We organized Homecoming," said junior Sarah Blanchard. "We also went to the nursing home for Christmas to bring people presents and make them a little bit more happy."

Signing up new members, Juniors Veronica Solis and Carrie Petroski help get things started for the 2000-2001 school year. Booster Club was responsible for organizing Winter Homecoming, locker buddies and a clothes drive.



Varsity Club



Front Row: Sarah Blanchard, Jaci Bologna, Lora Melton, Bianca Ballas, Gellian Vecchio, Gabe Melnick, Caryn Miller, Angela Parnell, Emily Goddington, Anne Meddley, Samantha Adams, Mary Belcher, Row 2: Sarah Govert, Adriana Aguilera, Kristina Toth, Michelle Caruso, Hannah Ziemko, Julie Runkel, Susan Huss, Kate Higginbotham, Melissa Goldini, Stephanie Bridgeman, Amber Price, Row 3: Ross Kadish (sponsor), Tammy Helt, Andrea Melendez, Kimberly Keyone, Eric Skerzyski, Keri Kellie, Justin Lawrence, Blake Parker, Samantha Quintana, Michelle Costa, Susan Edls, Lara Gonzalez, Juliana Golewski, Row 4: Melissa Petersen, Dana Zakanovich, Sarah Hirsch, Sarah Fry, Derek Blythe, Nichole Popovich, Amber Farr, Shauna Sennar, Laura Worley, Christina Govert, Danielle Hermes, Row 5: Melissa Hare, Beth Connell, Kathleen Varek, John Hanson, Nate Spitz, Kyle Alexander, Daniel Schoon, Branne Stegall, Shawn Zolich, Matthew Gonzalez, Julie Newman, Row 6: Elise Miller, Justin Grimmer, Sierra Negrette, Kyle Komarski, Cary Baker, Kevin Winko, Jason Labaca, Robert Hanzler, Michael Tomaszewski, Anthony Potasta, Row 7: Matthew Najar, Matt Thon, Mark Amos, Paul Malanika, Jared Pierson, Matthew Sherry, Chris Peacock, David Calby, Josh Handley, Brandon Powell



Front Row: Jaci Bologna, Kate Higginbotham, Ryan Horn (v.p.), Justin McDonald (pres.), Stan Kaskis, Amanda Nichols, Michael Hernandez, Row 2: Jamie Sanchez, Stefanie Roznowski, Carly Dimowski, Jennifer Sims, Mary Turkowski, Jessica Thompson, Nicole Steinhilber, Kelly Mann, Crystal Wilcox, Row 3: Robert Miller, Adam McCann, Cynthia Woerner, Charley Hancock, March Karbowicz, Amanda Paul, Joseph Tharp, Michael McCann, Jon Melendez

Marching Band



Front Row: Craig Vachek, Paix McCann, Michel Hernandez, Stefanie Roznowski, Angel Valtz, Row 2: Michael McCann, Carly Dimowski, Carrie Labella, Tabitha Beck, Jamie Sanchez, Kelly Mann, Cory Meyer (director), Row 3: Charley Woerner, Amanda Paul, Adam McCann, Mary Turkowski, Nicole Koppke, Kate Higginbotham, Row 4: Melissa Petersen, Blake Parker, Justin Grimmer, March Karbowicz, David Thon, Mark Steinhilber

Jazz Band



Front Row: Carly Dimowski, Jessica Kadish, Carrie Labella, Row 2: Jamie Sanchez, Jessica Thompson, Tabitha Beck, Kate Higginbotham, Mary Turkowski, Row 3: Stefanie Roznowski, Charley Hancock, Corey Meyer (director), Amanda Paul, Angel Valtz



Front Row: Jamika Taylor, Stephanie Dorotajew, Courtney Shobbs, Tanya Hunt, Heather Green Row 2: Kelly McCabe, Judy Vanselow, Lauren Chappell, Michelle Couch, Amber Kepple, Teanna Sutton Row 3: Laura Anderson, Michelle Ashenbaugh, Nastasha Cortez, Melissa Federenko, Krysten Fane



Front Row: Mary Molster, Kristine Matsui, Elizabeth Gorman, Jeremy Martin, Craig VanCoy, Freck McMillon, Jillian Torsini, Kyle Mann, Jason Lundquist Row 2: Julie Walekiewicz, Marissa Sills, Ayumi Yoshino, Daniel Schoon, Jonathan Powell, Nathan Spitz, Sara Blanchard, Shannon Hammers, Brandon Bruce, David Reed Row 3: Carey Baccino, Laura Blahunka, Kristy Toth, Joshua Teague, Jeffrey Cook, Courtney Schmidt, Valerie Anderson, Danny Veseli, Jonathan Ritz, Sean Carey Row 4: Ciannette Gels, Jennifer Mathews, Steven Homolky, Kevin Cox, Christopher Jackson, Heather Koenig, Kristen Lankheit, Jeremy Byrck, Paul Worley, Bryan King Row 5: Renee Weckum, Heidi East, Adam Lucas, Kimberly Beynon, Jacqueline DeYoung, Lance White, Steven Schultz



Front Row: Bibana Damjanovic, Bonnie Dunnett, Lauren Jajowka, Summer Gramer, Kendall Johnstone, Kate Veseli, Amanda Pinkerton, Tara Bumbles, Shannon Scheldt Row 2: Carly Clark, Amanda Baran, Elizabeth Jones, Angie Hanson, Stacey Caron, Vicki Juras, Jaci Gira, Nikki Watts, Carolyn Lopez, Christen Nash Row 3: Melissa Stevens, Megan Stupelson, Shannon Thiel, Stephanie Pinkerton, Amanda Luumvel, Christina Saldana, Melissa Powell, Julie Connell, Hilary Forsythe, Kristen Domic, Monica Delong, Kristen Buehler Row 4: Stephanie Staples, Christa Redden, Amy Toth, Christina Fondich, Danielle Paul, Clarissa Farr, Carlyne Josephs, Lisa Staumman, Dorothy Aimes, Kathryn Zubrenic, Rachel Grimmer, Crystal Hendricks



Front Row: Roy LaBerge, Quince Ballas, Kevin Lawrence, Mickey Slitton, Tom Gorecki, Kyle Wolff, Adam Ryzak, Matt Spencer, Steve Eaton Row 2: Damian Mitchell, Jason Lewis, Daniel Ricard, Dan Bernotas, Danny Veseli, Kyle Mann, Thomas Keown, Scott Audinall, Zach Withers Row 3: Mike Neleman, Corey Hecht, Glenn Candiff, Neelhyne Pinesowa, Kiel Erickson, Jeremy Glover, Brad MacFarlane, Justin Ricketts, Justin Hopkins

Girls Choir

Concert Choir

Girls Chorus

Boys Chorus

Handing out awards, Cynthia Spejewski, music, shakes hands with Abigail Forbes at the Top Ten Dinner. Spejewski has sponsored Honor Society and the various choirs as well as directing the fall musical during her career at GHS.

Giving the rules, Junior Class Council sponsor Teresa Carstenson talks about Prom guidelines at the girls meeting. As sponsor Carstenson helped oversee Prom planning and float building for Homecoming as well as the meetings held throughout the year.





STARTING FROM SCRATCH

Teachers became sponsors and added new clubs

In the fall, school was not the only thing just starting. French club and physics club made their debut at GHS as well, adding another option for students.

Student requests led to the start of French club.

"There were a lot of students asking me for one so I just responded to their demands," **Scott Fech**, sponsor, said.

The same was true for physics club, according to sponsor **Thomas Deskovich**, science.

"The students were interested. It was their responsibility from the start," Deskovich said.

During the year French club did several activities, including going to a French restaurant in Chicago and having a Valentine's Day

party with the Spanish Club. That followed the idea that Fech originally wanted.

"Basically I wanted to expose students to French culture whether they took French or not," Fech said.

Despite the fact that physics club did not take off as well as planned, Deskovich considers the first year a success.

"It was a success because of the way that it sparked so much interest in the students and even in some parents," said Deskovich.

By starting new clubs, teachers helped to show that they would become sponsors if it was for the good of the students.

~*Patrick McCamey
and Amanda Grevich*

feel the Power

Name: **Tim Powers**

Subjects taught: Government, Psychology
Activities sponsored: Student Council, Freshman Class Council, Booster Club

Why his students feel he is an important sponsor: "He shows students he cares, he always touches base with people and keeps on top of things," junior **Selena Saldana** said. "I look up to him because he is so genuine about what he does."

What he says about being a sponsor: "It's a great way to interact with kids on a different level and it's a good opportunity to provide leadership and direction for student ideas," said Powers.



Discussing the details, **Lawrene Hawthorne**, librarian and ACES sponsor talks with the owner of the car that the bus hit on the way to a Chicago field trip. "I enjoy ACES because I get to expose the students to the different plays and musicals as well as the new theaters in Chicago," said Hawthorne.

Sitting in the main gym's lobby, **Michelle Jones** talks with hopefuls about Pantherette tryouts. Jones, who has been the sponsor for 2 years, led the girls to a first place victory at state competition.

One by one the years passed. People have come and gone. They may have been dear friends, acquaintances, or worst enemies. These people have all made impressions on us. Throughout the rest of our lives, we'll meet even more people and touch even more hearts. High school is where we developed the people skills we need to help us later in life.

At first, high school can be a scary place. It's not like junior high at all. The people are bigger, they have deeper voices, they're stronger, and they wear more risque clothing. Eventually, high school becomes like a second home. We develop relationships with teachers and classmates. Lifetime friendships are born.

A true friend is someone who is always there. You can tell him your deepest darkest secret and he'll tell you his. You can count on him and he can count on you. He's always there for you in the good times as well as the bad, and he'll never stab you in the back or ditch you for someone else. You'll cherish the time spent together.

Time could be our friend and time could be our foe. The school days seemed to drag on and the weekends never lasted long enough. As a freshman four years seemed like a lifetime, and as a senior it seemed that four years was just the blink of an eye. In those four years, we grew and matured and became the confident, competent adults of the future. —Eric Salczynski

Clockwise from top: Juniors Tom Zeller, Timothy Thirion and Shauna Santare and senior Laura Worley relax after the JETS competition at Purdue Calumet. Both JETS teams qualified for nationals where varsity took fourth place. Waiting for dinner to be served, juniors Greg Bowers and Carolyn Joseph kill time while they wait. They were only two of about 30 GHS students to be honored the Urban League of Northwest Indiana dinner. Having a good time, freshman Lesley Schofield and sophomores Erica Garnett and Steven Wisniewski play Twister during a free day in Teresa Carstensen's Pre-Algebra class. Eating lunch sophomore Teanna Sutton and senior Everett Mull talk about the day's events. Big Picture: Students wait after school to pick up their yearbooks from the year before.





Samantha Adame Softball 9 10 11 12 (MI 10, BMA 11, Cpt 11, 12), X-Country 9 10 11 12 (BMA 12), Basketball 9 10, Turnabout Princess 10, Homecoming Court 12, Student Council 9 10 11 12, Class Council 9 10 11 12, Span Club 9 10 11 12

Adrianna Aguilar

Elizabeth Ahlemier

Justin Albright Chorale 11 12, Drama 11 12, DECA 12, Soccer 9



Kyle Alexander Football 9 10 11 12 (All-Conf Hon Men 12), Wrestling 9 10 11 12 (Cpt 12), Track 10 11 12, Varsity Club 9 10 11 12, Art Club 12

Victoria Anderson Class Council 10 11 12 (Pres 12), NHS 10 11 12 (VP 12), Student Council 11 12, Drama 10 11 12, Spell Bowl 10 11 12

Angela Arcella

Tanaia Armstrong



Sarah Bacan Basketball 9 10 11 12 (MVP 11, All-Conf 1st Team, All-Area Hon Men. 12), Volleyball 9 10 11 12 (MVP 12, All-Conf 1st Team 11 12, All-Area 1st Team 12), Softball 9 10 11 12 (All-Area Hon Men 11), Student Council 9 10 11 12, Class Council 9 10 11 12

Hayley Baccino

Michelle Bagwell

Tammy Baker



Michael Bakker

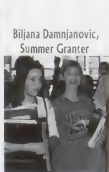
Diana Ballas Student Council 10 11 12 (Pres 11 12), Cheerleading 9 11 12 (Co-Cpt 12), JV Soccer 9 10 11, Class Council 10 11 12 (VP 10), Choir 9 10 11 12 (VP 10)

Joshua Banning Baseball 9 10 (MI 9), Basketball 9, X-Country 10 11, Class Council 11

Colin Banta Soccer 9 10 11, Student Council 11



Kyle Massa



Biljana Damjanovic,
Summer Granter



Brandon Fane



Michael Powers, Shawn Medsker,
Christopher Hill, Kyle Krause, Adam
Neiswinger



Kenneth Darnell, Joshua Moon,
Nicolas Kasbohm



Julie Purgert, Melissa Gaddini



Lindsay Beigle Basketball 9 10 (Co-Cpt 9 10), Volleyball 9 10 11 (Co-Cpt 10 11), Softball 9 11, NHS 9 10 11 12, Student Council 9 10 11 12

Mary Belcher Swimming 9 10 11 12, Track 9 10 11 12, X-country 9 10, SADD 11, Span Club 10 11

David Beshears

Paul Blahunka Golf 9 10 11 12 (MVP 11, MI 10)



Derek Blythe Soccer 9 10 11 12 (MVP 12), Basketball 11 12, Golf 10 11 12

Matthew Boilek

Jaci Bolsega Band 9 10 11 12 (Drum Major 11 12), Student Council 9 10 11 12 (Pres 9, Sec 11), Span Club 10 11 12 (Hist 11 12), Class Council 10 12, SADD 10 11 12

James Braden



Christopher Brookhart Baseball 9 10 11 12 (All-Conf, All-Area 11), X-Country 9 10 11 (MVP 10, MI 9)

Turnabout Prince

Pamela Campbell

Jeffrey Carpenter

Katina Chapa Span Club 10 11, Bowling Club 11



Lindsay Chapa Volleyball 10 11 12 (Sect. Champs 12, All-Conf 2nd Team 12), Tennis 9 10 11 12 (MI 10), Booster Club 10 11

Tabitha Chavez

Paul Chidichimo

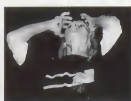
Tyler Chievruce



Justin Grimmer



Kevin Cap



Emily Coddington



Scott Negrete



Seniors in the Homecoming parade



Bonnie Eddy, Amanda Mitchell

Tapping the keys, senior **Brandon Smelko** plays the piano. Smelko was in chorale which was directed by Mrs. Spejewski. Pamela Sims was Mrs. Spejewski's real piano player.

Seniors **Anne Medsker**, **Samantha Quintero** and **Beth Connell** pose for a picture at turn-about in December. The three have attended all the dances at GHS.



Class of 2000

228
Total Seniors

123 Girls 105 Boys

Class Officers

President	Victoria Anderson
Vice President	Laura Worley
Secretary	Lora Melton
Treasurer	Jason Tomcsi

Class Sponsors

Barbara Delaget Russ Radtke

Emily Coddington Basketball 9 10 11 12 (Cpt 11), Softball 9 10 11 12, Volleyball 9 10 11 12 (Cpt 12), Class Council 11 12, Prom Queen 11

David Colby Track 9 10 11 12 (M 11), Class Council 10 11 12 (VP 11), Panther Press 11

Adam Collins Football 9 10 11, Track 10, Physics Club 12 (VP 12)

Kristen Collins Panther Press 11 12 (Man. Editor 12), Quill and Scroll 11 12, Chorlettes 11, Spon Club 11, SADD 11

Beth Connell Pantherettes 10 11 12 (Hist 12), Drama 9 10 11 12, Choir 9 10 11 12, NHS 9 10 11 12, Student Council 9 10 11 12, Softball 9 10

Gregory Cooper

Heather Cope

Nicholas Crawford Football 9 10 11 12 (JV MVP 11), Baseball 10 11 12, Basketball 9, Homecoming King 12



Nicolas Demske

Leticia Cullens, Melissa Federenko, Teresa Carstensen



Verconica Jacobs

Jacqueline DeYoung



Jillian Tsirtsis, Keith Henman

Brett Riochetti





Mike Cservanek Drama 10 11 12 (Std Dir 12), Chorale 12, Choir 10 11 (Dept VP 12), X-Country 11 (BMA 11), All-State Choir 12

Michelle Cuneo Volleyball 9 10 11 12, Reflector 12, SADD 10 11 12 (Sec 12), Student Council 11 12, Span Club 10 11 12

Erick Cunningham

Mira Damjanovic Student Council 9 10 11 12, NHS 10 11 12, Span Club 10 11 12, Spell Bowl 10 11 12, DARE Role Model 12



Troy Dameron

Lauren Davis

Jacqueline DeYoung Booster Club 9 10 11 12, Span Club 10 11 12, Basketball Man. 11 12, Who's Who 12

Annie Dinkins

What will I miss the most??

"I miss everybody coming together for the football games and dances."

-Vanessa Hooper

"I'm going to miss seeing all the guys in their football uniforms on Friday nights."

-Colleen Vechey

"I'll miss the mashed potatoes the most. They're so good!"

-Victoria Anderson

"I'll miss my friends the most because we all are going our separate directions."

-Pamela Campbell



Senior **Lora Melton** receives her plate at the recognition dinner at the Radisson. The dinner was sponsored by the Urban League of Northwest Indiana. Students from all grades attended for Griffith.

Who is your favorite teacher?

the top four nominees

- a) **Mr. McCoy** c) **Mrs. Keithley**
b) **Mr. Witt** d) **Mr. Price**

Answers: b) **Mr. Witt** and c) **Mrs. Keithley**

Survey of 100 GHS Seniors



Jessica Everhart

After a JETS competition, senior **Justin Falk** goes down into the splits. Falk is in tae kwando and karate and was showing off his skills to the rest of the JETS members who didn't believe that he could actually do it.

Beth Connell



Paul Worley



Lisa Skura, Michael Cservanek

Erin Gervais, Rose Bryant



Scott Negrete, Jonathon Rogowski



Julie Cadle

Bonnie Eddy Class Council 10 11
12, Student Council 12, Booster Club
11 12, Span Club 10 11, SADD 10 11
Jessica Everhart Volleyball 9 10 11
12 (Capt 11 12, BMA 10, MI 11, All-
Conf Hon Men 11, All-Conf 2nd team
12), Softball 9 10 11 12 (All-Conf Hon
Men 11), NHS 10 11 12 (Hist 11, Pres
12), *Reflector* 11 12 (MVU 11, Co-
Editor 12, JETS 10 11 12 (Capt 11 12)
Metai Ezell Choir 9 10 11 12,
ISSMA Competition 11 12,
Brandon Fane Football 9 10, JETS
11 12, Band 9 10, Bowling Club 12



Amber Farr Basketball 9 10 11 12,
(All-Conf Hon Men 10, All-Conf 1st
team 11, All-Area Hon Men 11, Capt
11, 12), NHS 9 10 11 12 (Pres 9), Class
Council 9 10, Booster Club 9 10 11
12, Student Council 9 10, Varsity Club
9 10 11 12
Trisha Fleishman Student Council
12, Booster Club 11 12, SADD 11 12,
Tennis 9 10
Steven Flutka
Abigail Forbes Swimming 9 10 11,
Band 9 10, Jazz Band 9 10, NHS 11 12



Maria Garcia Span Club 9, Drama
10
Allison Gatlin Soccer 9 10 11, Class
Council 11 12, Student Council 12,
Turnabout Court 10, Prom Court 11,
Homecoming Court 12
Demetrios Georgis Basketball 11
12 (MI 11), Baseball 9, Choir 9 (Our
Choir Men 9), Span Club 10
Erin Gervais Drama 11, Span Club
12, SADD 12



Carrie Giltmier Softball 9 10 11 12
(BMA 11), X-Country 10 11 12, Choir
10 11 12, Student Council 10 11 (Co-
Choir 11), Basketball 9
Lara Gonzalez Track 11 12 (MI 11),
Pantherettes 11 12, Span Club 12 (VP
11), Student Council 10 11
Christina Govert Pantherettes 10 11
12 (Sec 12, Squad Leader 11 12), Tennis
9 10 11 12, NHS 10 11 12, Drama 10 11
12,
Amanda Greovich SADD 10 11 12
(Pres 12), Student Council 11 12,
Reflector 11 12 (Sec Ed 11 12), *The Edge*
12 (Co-Editor 12), Span Club 10 11 12



Sophmores



Breanne Steagall, Joshua
Moon



Valerie Saltanovitz, Tara
Bumbales



Breanne Steagall



Mark Govert



Megan Steapleton



Matthew Hafner

Joshua Handley Football 9 10 11
12, Track 9 11 12, Hockey Club 10,
Varsity Club 10 11 12

John Hanson Wrestling 9 10 11 12
(M 11, Cpt 12), Baseball 9 10

Melissa Hart Soccer 9 10 11 12 (JV
MVP 9, JV Cpt 9, Iron Maiden 11,
Capt 11, Outstanding Defense 12, All-
Conf 2nd Team 12, All-Conf
Academic Team 12), Basketball
Manager 9 10 11, Class Council 10 11
12, Prom Court 11, Varsity Club 10
11 12



Nicole Hart SADD 9 10, Track 9

Lisa Hartman

Arianna Hecht Reflector 11 12
(Photo Editor 12), Drama 11 12, Span
Club 11 12, Quill & Scroll 11 12, Art
Club 10 11

Tammy Heft Soccer 9 10 11 12,
Basketball Manager 9 10 11, Class
Council 11 12



Keith Henman

Danielle Hennes

Trinity Hernandez

Christopher Hill Baseball 9 10 11
12 (BMA 11, All-Conf 1st Team 11,
All-Area 2nd Team 11)



Shelly Hively Band 9 10 11, SADD
11, Span Club 10 11, Tennis 9

Vanessa Hooper Student Council 9
10 11, Booster Club 9 10 11 12, Drama
11, Span Club 9 10 11 12, SADD 12

Claire Hudacin Tennis 9 10 11 12,
Soccer 9 10, Varsity Club 10 11 12,
Student Council 12, Class Council 12

Susan Huss Volleyball 9 10 11 12
(JV MVP 10, JV Cpt 10, BMA 11, Cpt
12), Reflector 11 12 (Sec Editor 11 12),
The Edge 12 (Co-Editor 12), Student
Council 11 12, NHS 10 11 12, SADD
10 11 12, Span Club 10 11, Tennis 10



Jacqueline DeYoung



Sarah Bacan



Cynthia DeLauro



Angela Subotic



Joshua York, Kathleen
Vanek



Brandon Walker

Pointing out the action, seniors Beth Connell and Elaine Parker enjoy themselves at activities night for Homecoming. Seniors won Activities night where students participated in games such as a water relay, powderpuff football and a boys' cheerleading competition.



Tessie Everett

Writing down his number, senior Caryn Miller sells senior Christopher Hill his ticket for Senior Banquet. Senior Banquet was held on May 26 at Sherwood South Banquet Hall in Schererville and was a chance for seniors to reminisce with their friends one more time before graduation.



Kelli Schom

Senior favorites..

Movie <i>American Pie</i>	Restaurant <i>Applebee's</i>
Food <i>Pizza</i>	Radio Station <i>89.6</i>
Band/Singer <i>Dave Mathew's Band</i>	Sport <i>football</i>
Actress <i>Julia Roberts</i>	Actor <i>Ryan Phillippe</i>
Color <i>Blue</i>	Store <i>Aeropostale</i>

*Survey of 62 seniors

When I was little I wanted to be...



"The Air Force, I've always loved it and been amused by it. I'll be going there in about a year."
-Everett Mull



"A teacher because I've always loved little kids and I love to talk."
-Tammy Heft



"A mechanic because I have always been fascinated with cars. I love to work on them."
-Jeff Hughes



"Lawyer because I thought they made lots of money and I always wanted a mercedes."
-Nancy Robles



"A hair stylist because my aunt was one and I wanted to be just like her."
-Trisha Fleishman



"A basketball player because I really liked basketball."
-Jared Pierson



"A realtor because that's what my dad is."
-Bonnie Eddy



"In a daycare center because I love other people's babies."
-Arianna Hecht

Colleen Vechey, Ryan Stage



Brandi Harveth

Jorie Parsons, Michelle Powers and Anne Medsker



William Barriga

Diana Ballas, Julie Newman, Andjela Subotic, Christina Govert



Phillip Cadle



Gabriel Irizarry

Jacob Johnson

Amie Kielbasa Soccer 9 10 11
12, Track 9 10

Kara Kmiec Diving 10 11 12
(MVD 11, BMA 10), Soccer 9 10,
Cheerleading 9 11, Turnabout
Court, Booster Club 9 19 11 12



Kandis Knight Student Council
12, SADD 11, Class Council 11,
Span Club 10 11

Jessica Koepf

Lisa Koepf

Kyle Konopasek Baseball 11 12,
Cross Country 10, 11 Varsity Club
10 11 12



Kyle Krause

Timothy Kukuch

Carrie LaBuda Band 9 10 11 12
(Senior Rep. 12), Student Council
10, Pep Band 9 10, Who's Who 10
11, Remnant 9 Drama 12

Kathrynn LaFayette Soccer 9 10
11 12 (JV BMA 11), Choir 9 10 11
12 (Pres. 10), Chorale 12, Student
Council 10 11 12, Span Club 10 11
(Sec. 10, Treas. 11)

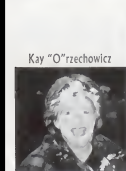


Jacob Laird Band 9 10 11

Bobby Lassiter Track 9 10 11 12
(BMA 9), Honor Society 11 12,
Span Club 10 11 12 (V.P. 12),
French Club 12 (Pres. 12), Bowling
Club 12

Chuck Lau Drama 10 11 12,
Choir 9 10 11 Chorale 12

William Lavolette Basketball
9 10 11 12, SADD 12



Reflector, Panther Press members

Michelle Cuneo, Keith Von Ogden



Renee Wotkun, Mike Cervenak



Ayumi Yoshino



Gregory Bowers

Michael Leal

Jason Lebata Baseball 9 10 11 12,
Basketball 9, Class Council 10 11 12,
Span Club 10 11 12
Sara LeCounte Track 11 12
Christina Lopez



Kelly Loudenber

Laura Loudenber

Timothy Malo Track 10 11 12,

Choir 10 11

Corrie Mantis



Bret Matthews

Kathryn Mauch

Jernetta McDaniel Student
Council 11 12, Span Club 11 12 (Tsr
12), Basketball Man. 12

Jennifer McQueary



Anne Medsker Volleyball 9 10 11 12
(Cpt 12), Basketball 9 10 11 12 (M1 11),
Student Council 10 11 12, NHS 9 10 11
12, Class Council 10 11 12

Shawn Medsker Basketball 9, Football
9 10 11 12 (All-State DB 12)

Lora Melton NHS 10 11 12, Class
Council 9 10 11 12 (Sec 9 10 11 12),
Cheerleading 11 12 (Hist 12), Soccer 9
10, Turnabout Court, Prom Court

Caryn Miller Soccer 9 10 11 12 (MVP
12, BMA 11), Track 9 10 (M19), Basketball
9 10, NHS 10 11 12, SADD 12



Derek Blythe



Stephen Eaton



Eric Polgar



Stephanie Beigle, Jason Alexander



David Colby



Elaine Parker, Irma
Coddington

**Tom Miller**

Heather Mladenik DECA 11 12,
Student Council 12, SADD 10 11 12,
Choir 9, Booster Club 9

David Moore DECA 11 12 (Pres
12), Choir 9 10 11, Wrestling 9 10,
Track 9

Madelyn Moore Pantherettes 10
11 12 (VP 12), Chorale 12



Everett Mull Swimming 10 11 12
(MI 10), Chorale 12, Choir 9 10
11 (Pres 10, VP 11), Track 9 10, Soccer
9

Patrick Mulligan

Salina Muro DECA 11 12 (VP 12)

Matthew Najar Football 9 11 12,
Varsity Club 9 10 11 12, Track 11 12,
SADD 11 12, Art Club 11 12

**Erich Neiswinger**

Justin Newell Football 10 11 12
(Cpt 12)

Julie Newman Choir 9 10 11,
Chorale 12 (Pres 12), Soccer 9 10 11,
Drama 10 11, Cheerleading 12,
Student Council 10 11 12

Christopher Otto

Angela Parent Soccer 9 10 11 12,
Wrestling Man 9, Choir 9

Elaine Parker Basketball 9 10 11
12 (JV BMA 10), Track 10 11, Class
Council 11 12, Student Council 12,
Span Club 10 11

Amanda Paul**Jessica Pavich**

Beth Connell

Jaci Bolsega, John Jensen,
Carrie Baccino,Candice Peters, Kellie
Sternberg

Seniors



Shawn Pewitt

Steve Beshears, Justin Falk,
Craig Sims

Talking with a business representative at the Career Fair, seniors **Erich Neiswinger** and **Salvador Aguilar**, get their Career Fair sheets filled out. The fair was intended to help students get an idea of what job opportunities are available after high school and college.

Listening to the softball coaches go over the rules, seniors **Samantha Quintero** and **Sarah Bacan** sit with the varsity and junior varsity teams in the main gym before practice. The two have played softball and basketball together all four years.



Jessica Everhart



Annie Hecht

Melissa Petersen
Jared Pierson Basketball 11 12,
 Boy's State 11
Eric Polgar Baseball 9, DECA
 11 12, ICE 12
Nathan Pollock



Nichole Popovich Softball 9 10 11 12 (MI 9), Volleyball 9 10 11 12 (MI 9), Basketball 9 10, NHS 10 11 12, Student Council 10 11 12
Michael Powers Baseball 9 10
Anthony Pruitt Band 9 10, Panther Press 11 12 (Photo Manager 12), Quill and Scroll 11 12
Samantha Quintero Basketball 9 10 11 12, Soccer 10 11 12, Softball 9 10 11 12, Student Council 11 12, Class Council 10 11 12



Craig Travis



Senior guys



Christopher Brookhart, Michael Tomaszewski, Nicholas Planer



Roy LaBarge



Selenia Saldana, Candice Peters



Erica Quiroz DECA 12
Joshua Rainford
Cory Rakes Football 10 11 12,
 Wrestling 9 12, Track 9
Michael Reyna Basketball 10
 11 12, Tennis 11 12, Baseball 10



Heather Rivera Span Club 10
Nancy Robles Basketball 9 10 11
 12, Softball 9 10 11 12, Class Council
 9 10 11 12 (Pres 9 10 11), Student
 Council 9 10 11 12 (Sec 12), Span
 Club 10 11 12 (Sec 12)
Danielle Rossman Tennis 10,
 Bowling Club 11 12, Art Club 9, Aide
 11 12
Matthew Rusch Choir 9 10 11,
 Chorale 12, Superbowl 10, Bowling
 Club 11



Ariane Hough

Building Blocks



Victor Sandoz

Imagine building a house. Now imagine that's how you spend the first half of your school day. That's how senior **Erick Cunningham** spends his first through fourth hours. Cunningham, who plans on a career as a carpenter, works with the career center and Habitat for Humanity to build houses. The program not only helps out the less fortunate, but is a great lesson too. "We do one step at a time," said Cunningham. "It takes longer than usual though."

Walking through the hallways, seniors **Jernetta McDaniel** and **Kandis Knight** make their way to class. Crowded hallways, filled with students going to class or standing in a group with their friends were a part of everyday life.

French students



Ruth Carmichael



Heather Mladenik



Matthew Papa

Amy Theodozio



John Jensen, William Barriga

Melissa Ryan

Eric Salczynski X-Country 10 11 12
(Capt 12), Reflector 11 12 (Sec Editor
11, Co-Editor 12), Math Superbowl 11
12, Drama 12, Quill & Scroll 11 12 (Pres
12)

Stacey Schafer Tennis 9 10, Student
Council 12

Julie Scheeringa Football Man 9 10
11, Varsity Club 9 10 11 12 (Pres 11
12), Span Club 10 12, Trainer 11,
SADD 10



Kelli Schoon Reflector 10 11 12
(Photo Man 11 12), The Edge 12
(Photo Editor 12), Quill & Scroll
10 11 12, Booster Club 12, SADD
10 12, Art Club 12

Eric Scott

Myoshia Scott

Matthew Sherry Tennis 9 10 11
12 (BMA 10, MI 11, MVP 12),
Basketball 10 11 12 (MI 10),
Baseball 9 10, NHS 11 12



Craig Sims Soccer 9 10 11 12
(MVP 12, All-State Hon Men 12,
All-Conf 1st Team 11 12, All-Dist 1st
Team 12, All-Area 12), Football 12,
Track 9 10 11 12

Pamela Sims Chorale 11 12, Band
9 10, Volleyball 9 10, Bowling Club
12, Track 9

Lisa Skura Pantherettes 10 11 12
(Pres 12), Choir 9 10 11 12 (Hist 12),
Drama 9 10 11, Booster Club 9 10
11, Span Club 9 10 11

Brandon Smelko Choir 9 10 11,
Chorale 12, Art Club 10 11



Caleb Smith

Reina Smith

Ryan Stage Football 9 10 12
(All-Conf 12), Baseball 9, Art
Club 12

Kevin Suba Baseball 10 11 12
(All-Conf 1st Team 11),
Reflector 11, Quill & Scroll 11



Joshua Swentzel



Mario Ruff



Julie Cadie



Rachel Sweet



Matthew Euber



Stephanie Bridegroom,
Sarah Fry



Annie Hecht

Posing for a picture, seniors **Melissa Hart** and **Melissa Petersen** show off their garbage bag creations. The fourth year sewing class had to make garbage bag clothes to demonstrate how professional designers use muslin when first starting out.



Corey Hecht

Standing at attention, Brian Jennings' English class says the Pledge of the Allegiance in first hour. During the middle of the school year, administration decided that every Monday the school mission statement and pledge should be said.

Top Ten Back Row: Victoria Anderson, Mira Damnjanovic (Salutatorian), Jessica Everhart, Nichole Popovich, Laura Worley
Front Row: Shauna Tulba, Susan Huss (Valedictorian), Andjela Subotic, Lora Melton, Abigail Forbes



Corey Hecht

Sarah Govert, Stephanie Beigle



Daniel Riordan

Allison Banta, Ryan Blythe



Adam Lukas

Erick Cunningham



Marcin Karbowiczek

One thing I couldn't live without...



"I couldn't live without going hunting."
-Senior **Brandon Walker**



"Boys."
-Senior **Rachel Sweet**

"I couldn't live without my eyeliner. I love it."
-Senior **Heather Cope**



Kelli Schoon

Taking a look at the Panther Press, senior **Nathan Pollock** takes a break during ceramics. Pollock improved his art skills by taking an IR in ceramics and being an aide for the art department, as well as taking ceramics class. He also worked for **Bob Witt**, art, at Witt's home, helping with Witt's pottery business.

Staying home VS Going away

Advantage

"No matter where you go the first year, you'll still be taking the same classes that you would at any other school."

-Senior, **Demetrios Georgis**

Disadvantage

"You don't get a lot of experience living on your own without your parents. There's also probably more opportunities if you go away."

-Senior, **Erin Gervais**

Advantage

"I'm going away to get out of here. There'll be a lot of new experiences you won't have here."

-Senior, **Josh Banning**

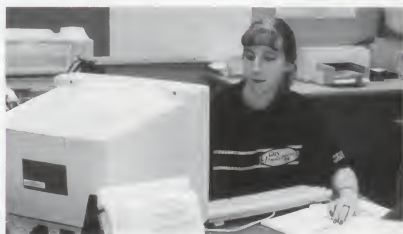
Disadvantage

"You're far away from home and you don't have your mom and dad there to give you money or maybe your dinner."

-Senior, **Lisa Skura**



Annie Hecht



Annie Hecht

Taking a swing, senior **Pamela Sims** backhands a ball to her friends in a game of ping-pong at her house. "The best thing about being a senior is that younger kids look up to you," Sims said.

Getting in her typing practice, senior **Mira Damjanovic** enhances her computer skills in class. "The best thing about being a senior is that everyone is a lot closer this year than any other year. It's really fun to hang out and be so close at the same time."

Tabitha Chavez, Gregory Borden, Salina Muro



Cory Rakes

David Haldi, Nicole Love



Demetrios Georgis



Samantha Adame



Eric Kocon,
Amanda Pinkerton



Andjela Subotic NHS 9 10 11 12 (Sec 12), Span Club 10 11 12 (Pres 11), Tennis 9 10 (BMA 10), Chorale 11 12, Spell Bowl 10 11 12 (Capt 12), Drama 11 12

Rachel Sweet

Lawrence Swentzel Football 9 11 12, Track 9

Matthew Terhorst



Andrew Textor

Amy Theodozio

Matt Thon Basketball 9 10 11 12 (BMA 9, MI 10), X-Country 11 (MI 11), Varsity Club 9 10 11 12

Jason Tomcsi Drama 9 10 11

12, Student Council 10 11 12

Panther Press (News Editor 12,

Editor 12), Chorale 12, Class

Council 10 11 12 (Trsr 12, Sec 11)



Shauna Tulba Career Center 11 12, Student Advisory Comm 11 12

Tina Varady

Colleen Vechey Soccer 9 10 11 12

(MI 10, BMA 12, Capt 12, Leading

Scorer 12, All-Conf 2nd Team 12, All-

Area Hon Men 12, All-Conf

Academic 12), Quill & Scroll 12,

Varsity Club 10 11 12, Class Council

10 11 12, Booster Club 11 12, *Reflector*

12, *Panther Press* 12

Marissa Villaseñor



Mirjana Vlahovic Pantherettes

10 11 (Squad Leader 11), Student

Council 12, Tennis 10, Choir 9 10

11, Drama 9 10 11, Booster Club 9

10 11, Span Club 9 10 11

Lindsay Vrane

Brandon Walker Football 9 10

Andrea Wartman Basketball 9

10, Art Club 11 12

Heather Green



Matthew O'Grady, Joseph Bertucci

Thomas Melton, Adam Brownfield



Justin Albright



Matthew Gonzalez



Melissa Petersen, Elaine Parker

Filling up a balloon with helium, senior Lauren Davis gets balloons ready to sell for Valentine's Day. This was the first year that DECA sold balloons to raise money.



Keith Schmitt

Measuring ingredients, senior Anne Medsker gets all the ingredients together to make some artichoke dip. The French IV students were making food for their Christmas party.



Keith Schmitt



Jerome Martin

Tying string on stars, seniors Lora Melton, Carrie Giltmeyer, Myoshia Scott, Kathryn LaFayette and Claire Hudacik make hall decorations. The seniors won first place at homecoming activities, but lost to the juniors in hall decorating.



Jennifer Lafoon, Stacie Kapciak

Mike Cservenak, Renee Wotkun



Victoria Anderson, Mira Damjanovic, Brianna Beaker

Most Unique

Katie Mochon
Nathan Pollock

Best Hair

Allison Gatlin
Bret Matthews

Prettiest Eyes

Hayley Baccino
Aaron Aloia

Prettiest Smile

Laura Worley
Joshua Banning

Funniest

Angela Parent
Patrick Mulligan

Best Personality

Emily Coddington
Matthew Sherry

Most Cheerful

Madelyn Moore
Kyle Krause

Moodiest

Nicole Romburg
Joshua Handley

Biggest Brown Nose

Andjela Subotic
Bobby Lassiter

Best Body

Julie Newman
Shawn Medsker

Class Flirt

Colleen Vechey
Kyle Krause

Cutest Couple

Melissa Hart
Jason Leбата

Best Personality

Lindsay Beigle
Kyle Krause

Best Dressed

Bonnie Eddy
Jason Leбата

Most Gullible

Jacqueline DeYoung
Nicholas Crawford

Most Leadership

Diana Ballas
Jason Tomci

Best Artist

Brianne Wilsbach
Joshua Banning

Best Athlete

Sarah Bacan
Matthew Sherry

Smartest

Susan Huss
Brandon Fane

Most Likely to Succeed

Susan Huss
Brandon Fane

Most Musical

Laura Worley
Brandon Smelko

Joseph Bertucci,
Kathryn Ramsey



Julie Rutledge, Lindsay Chapa, Ann Medsker, Emily Coddington



John Miller



Adam Wartsbaugh

Kristina Watts

Tani Werner Art Club 9 10 11 12, Span Club 10, Booster Club 9, SADD 10

Cassandra White Class Council 10 11 12, Span Club 10 11 12, SADD 11 12, Exploratory Teaching 12, Student Council 9 10



Brianne Wilsbach Art Club 10 11 12 (Pres 12)

Kevin Wlazlo Basketball 9 10 11 12, Homecoming Court 12, Prom Court 11, Baseball 9 10, Varsity Club 11 12

Nicole Wolfe

Laura Worley Soccer 9 10 11 12 (MI 9), Drama 10 11 12, NHS 9 10 11 12, Student Council 9 10 11 12, Class Council 12 (VP 12), Chorale 12, Softball 9



Ayumi Yoshino Volleyball 12, Choir 12, Track 12

Shawn Zolcak Soccer 9 10 11 12 (JV MI 9), Basketball 10 11 12 (JV MI 10, JV BMA 11), Track 9 10, Student Council 9 10 11 12

Dana Zukanovich Basketball 9 10 11, X-Country 10 11 (MVP 11, All-Conf 2nd Team 11), Student Council 10 11 12, NHS 11 12, Drama 11, Choir 11, Acad Super Bowl 11, Span Club 11 12, Girls' State Nominee 11

Not Pictured

Charlotte Alissa-Nyarko
Salvador Aguilar
Aaron Aloia
Michael Baker
Kevin Berger
Lauren Biehl
Gregory Borden
Jeremy Branson
Raymond Brines
Rose Bryant
Borislav Damjanovic
Le'Rune Dixon

Justin Falk
Sarah Feich
Karen Ford
Gillian Forsythe
John Frye
Javan Hamer
Michael Harnew
James Henderson
Jesse Henderson
Brandon Hoshaw
Jeff Hughes
Sasa Jerkovic

Julie Jordan
Nicholas Jovanowich
Timmy Krebs
Travis Logan
Jeremy Luter
George Maddox
Jeremy McCarthy
Angela Mele
Robert Miller
Kathryn Mochon
Brian Morsant
Blake Morris

Kristen Oros
Amanda Rawlins
Brandice Reestman
Ramon Rocha
Nicole Romesburg
Shannon Sheffield
Nathan Slatnar
Tim Smit
Brooks Smith
Falon Terrell
Ed Tropp

Meghan Taitz
Erin Ullrich
Frederick Walczak



**Breanne Stegall,
Grim Reaper**



Joshua Banning



senior class boys



Justin McDonald



Rachel Steurruza



Nastasha Cortez



Shelly Hively

What does being a senior mean to me?

There is a great hubbub about the title of "Class of 2000," how we are the first representatives of the 21st century and the eyes of the entire world are upon us. But when you get past the overly impressive sounding title, we are the same as any other senior class that has ever existed. The responsibility and meaning of being a senior has remained the same, or has it? Looking at headlines in the paper as a high school student has become depressing over the years because of the negativity attached to people of our generation. We are reckless, violent, drug addicted, immoral, and apathetic. We are vandalizers, drunk drivers, and poor students. For every person among our class who has made a mistake (and there is nothing wrong with mistakes) there are at least twenty other students who have not. When are the positive characteristics focused upon? Once every grading period Honor Roll

students are listed in the smallest type possible on page nine of the Local section by a rare black and white photo of a student who wins a contest. So what does it mean to be a senior? It is our job to prove the negativity of the world wrong. Each generation that comes along is going to continue to be more educated, better skilled, and harder working. It is our place to make our mark in history. Does this mean that some will be greater than others? No, a man who paints houses is equal to one who builds rockets. Every individual is different and it is one of our jobs to recognize that and become the individuals we are meant to be. No matter what road is laid before each of us, it is our job to travel it and make necessary detours if the path is rocky. But never back track, always move forward. No dream is stupid and no goal is unreachable.

-Michael Cservenak, contest winner

*Honorable Mention: Mira Damnjanovic, Kelly Loudenber



Annie Hecht



Lesley Schofield



Tiffany Juarez, Marissa Sills



Cory Rakes



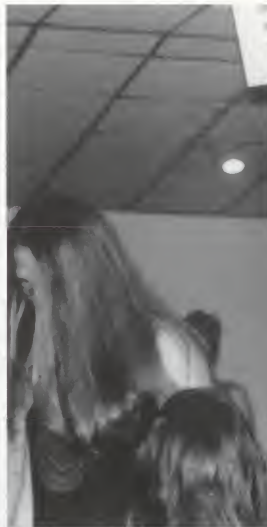
Lisa Koeppe, Kristina Watts, Christina Pierce



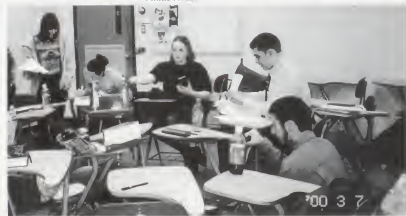
Jordan Buzea



Lacey Hall



Annie Hecht



Victoria Anderson

Surrounded by the flowers they made, seniors Carrie LaBuda, Lora Melton, Christina Govert, and Bonnie Eddy make a presentation on poetry in Susan Patrick's English class. "We made daffodils to go with the poem," Govert said.

Munching on a snack, seniors Abigail Forbes, Andjela Subotic, Jessica Everhart, Brandon Fane, and Ramon Rocha finish the last of the essay section in the JETS competition. This year, JETS placed first in the area.



Showing off his award, senior Kyle Krause goes back to his seat after winning for Biggest Partier. Krause won awards for Most Cheerful and Class Flirt also. "I'd like to thank all the girls for my class flirt award," Krause said, "Because without them I couldn't have done it."

What is one piece of advice you would give underclassmen?

"Be an attendance aide because Mrs. (Sheree) Kayden is the bomb."

-Matthew Boilek, senior

"Don't wait 'til the last minute to figure out what you are going to do after high school."

-Nicholas Crawford, senior

"Enjoy it while it lasts because it goes by really fast."

-Christina Govert, senior



Katie Schmitt

Holding a balloon ribbon in her mouth, DECA member Lauren Davis prepares a balloon bouquet. This year DECA starting selling bouquets as a fundraiser so students could buy them for their friends.



Photo Courtesy of Prestige Photos

Chowing down, seniors Heather Kope and Caleb Smith eat dinner at the annual Senior Banquet. After dinner, seniors learned who won the Senior Superlatives and what their class motto, flower, song and colors are.

Travis Walls, Lora Melton



Paul Worley



Andrea Melendez



Timothy Kukuch



Sarah Bacan, Kara Kmiec, Nancy Robles, and Nichole Popovich



Anthony Potesta



What is the best part of your junior year?



"Being elected president of IHSPA [Indiana High School Press Association] because I'm the third person in the history of the IHSPA to serve as president from Griffith."
-Selena Saldana, junior



"Going to career center for cosmetology because that is what my career is going to be."
-Tanya Lenker, junior



"Perkapalooza was my favorite part because five bands from Griffith came and we all had a great time."
-Angel Velez, junior



"Starting Varsity football for the first time and we almost won Sectionals."
-Mark Amos, junior



"Winning first place at state competition for Pantherettes was great. We beat our rival dance teams, and became the first squad ever to win first place at state."
-Janis Walenkiewicz, junior

Chatting at Turnabout, juniors Omar Gonzalez, Victor Sendejas, and Brad Sowinski converse over some pictures. Out of the 244 tickets sold for the Turnabout dance, 115 of them were for juniors.



Dancing with a visitor from Guatemala, junior Elizabeth Guzman gets the groove on with Jorge Garcia Noguera. Noguera was staying in town with the Scheeringa family. Junior Julio Castañeda is one of his good friends. "Just seeing him was so great because he is from my own country," Castañeda said.

Dissecting her frog for biology 3-4, junior Carrie Petroski gives it a poke. Students dissected frogs to learn about the muscles in the human body. "I like Bio a lot, plus I thought I should take it to help me out with what I want to be when I'm older. The dissecting part of it is disgusting though," Petroski said.



Crystal Wilcox



While some students spend their time in bowling clubs or chess clubs junior Crystal Wilcox is out saving the environment.

She said that the reason she joined 4-H was because she wanted to be involved in an organization that would help her meet new people from different countries and states. She also wanted to show off all the crafts she likes to do.

"I do projects from sewing to woodworking, from ceramics to basketry, from soil conservation to wetlands," said Wilcox. "There are many more things that I do in 4-H but that would fill up two pages."

Wilcox has gotten many opportunities from 4-H such as going on trips and winning many scholarships. The main reason she does it is just because she loves it.

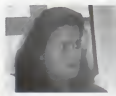
"It's not just a bunch of hicks, like everyone thinks. There are many more activities, scholarships and much more than people can do than any other organization," -Candice Peters



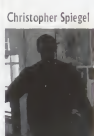
Mira Damjanovic



Nichole Dameron



Diana Bowman



Christopher Spiegel



Ashley Babbitt



Joshua Moon



Shauna Santare, Michelle Cutka



Jason Alexander
Angelina Alvarez
Mark Amos
Valerie Anderson
Carey Baccino
James Baggardy
Morgan Bailey



William Borriga
Peter Bathurst
Stephanie Beigle
Kenny Bellamy
Selena Bermudez
Joseph Bertucci
Daniel Biehl



Brett Bierman
Sarah Blanchard
Gregory Bowers
Robert Bradford
Alison Bridegroom
Stephanie Bridegroom
Brandon Bruce



Jeremy Bryzcki
Christy Bumbales
Phillip Cadle
Matt Calhoun
Matthew Callender
Kevin Cap
Lisa Carroll



Julio Castaneda
Jeffrey Cook
Nastasha Cortez
Michelle Couch
Jason Cunningham
Michelle Cutka
Paul Dalach



Kenneth Darnell
Elizabeth Dash
Craig Decker
Cynthia Delauro
Kyle Domazet
Stacy Dugard
Robert Dumigan



Reshell Fisher
Matthew Fliter
Mark Forster
Kimberly Frederick
Sarah Fry
Melissa Gaddini
Michelle Gaddini



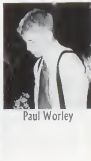
William Borriga



Timothy Thirion, Kenny Bellamy,
Joe Bertucci, Craig Decker



Christina Govert, Christen
Mattozzi



Paul Worley



Jeff Cook



Stacie Caron



Breanne Steagall

Juliann Gajewski
Benjamin Garland
Nikki Geffert
Kelly Gerdes
Omar Gonzalez
Mark Govert
Sarah Govert

Abigail Greco
Kasheena Green
Justin Grimmer
David Gutowsky
Elizabeth Guzman
David Haldi
Amanda Hall

Shannon Hammers
Sarah Handley
Brandi Harveth
Elisabeth Helfen
Kate Higginbotham
Steven Homoky
Ryan Horn

Timothy Hubbard
Robert Jabkowski
John Jensen
Robert Jensen
Jack Johnson
Ronnie Johnson
Imaru Jones



Junior favorites

Movie *Shawshank Redemption*

Food
Pizza

Band/Singer N Sync

Radio Station
89.6

Restaurant
BW3's

Sport
Soccer

Actress
Julia Roberts

Actor
Nicholas Cage

Color
Blue

Store
American Eagle

*Survey of 70 juniors



Returning to their seats, juniors Tom Zeller and Kyle Massa get set to watch the remainder of the varsity girls basketball game. There were four juniors on the girls sectional roster.

The Top 3 Favorite Electives

1. Ceramics

2. APC

3. Adult Prep

*Survey of 70 juniors



Matt Calender



Nate Spitz



Shauna Santare



Joseph Bertucci



Robert Jabkowski



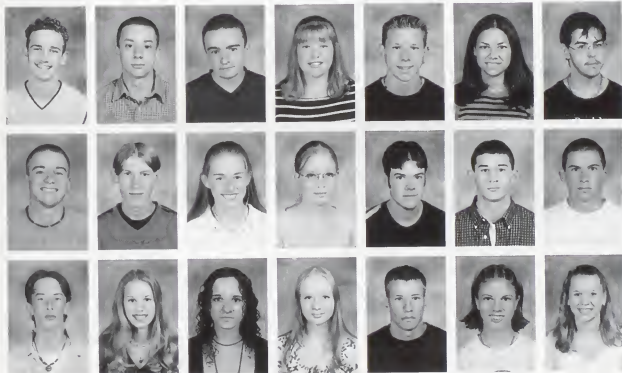
Emily Coddington

Making his way through the halls, junior **Kyle Domazet** leaves five minutes early to get to his next hour class. The leg injury kept Domazet out of action for five months.

Waiting to order, juniors **Joshua Moon**, **Gregory Bowers**, **Melissa Gaddini**, **Angelina Alvarez**, and **Michelle Gaddini** discuss the menu at Bennigan's. "I go there often," said Bowers. "It is one of my favorite restaurants."



Getting ready to change scenes, juniors **Jeffery Cook** and **Steven Schultz** prepare the next set. Both Cook and Schultz worked as stagehands on the musical *Sugar*.



Michael Jones
Efram Juarez
Jason Kane
Stacie Kapciak
Nicolas Kasbohm
Tiffany Kender
William Kintz

Craig Kovera
Christopher Kronland
Jennifer Laffoon
Tanya Lenker
Matthew Lewis
Matthew Lira
Milijan Lukajic

Jason Lundquist
Kelly Mann
Lindsey Mantis
Jennifer Marinos
Kyle Massa
Cristen Mattozzi
Nicole Matusz



Mark Forster



Sarah Fry



Nastasha Cortez



David Collier



Hannah Zemke



James Henderson,
Kyle Krause



Christopher
Jackson

Getting a good laugh juniors Michelle Cutka, Juliann Gajewski, and Sarah Govert wipe themselves down. The three took part in the food eating contest at Activities Night during Homecoming week.

What is your biggest accomplishment?



"My biggest accomplishment for this year is when I went down to Semi-state for wrestling."
-junior Ken Bellamy



"My biggest accomplishment and most memorable moment this year was winning Regionals and Semi-state runners-up in basketball."
-junior Sarah Fry



"My biggest accomplishment was getting up in a lib for cheerleading because I was unable to accomplish it last year."
- junior Ashley Wilson



Joshua Everhart

Before beginning to sing caroles, junior Paul Dalach chats with an elderly man. Student council visited the nursing home on December 18 to help them celebrate the Christmas season.

Defining Cool

"People are cool when they can accept others for who they really are."

~Kenneth Darnell

"It's not cool when people can't be their own person and have to act like everyone else to be cool."

~Elizabeth Dash

"I think that people are cool when they can be their own person and don't follow everyone else."

~Mark Govert

"People aren't cool when they're a follower other instead of a leader and doing things for themselves."

~Jennifer Hernandez



Kenny Bellamy, Tim Crothers
Travis Walls



Brian Osika, Amber
Piekarczyk



Kyle Massa, Thomas Zeller,
Robert Jensen



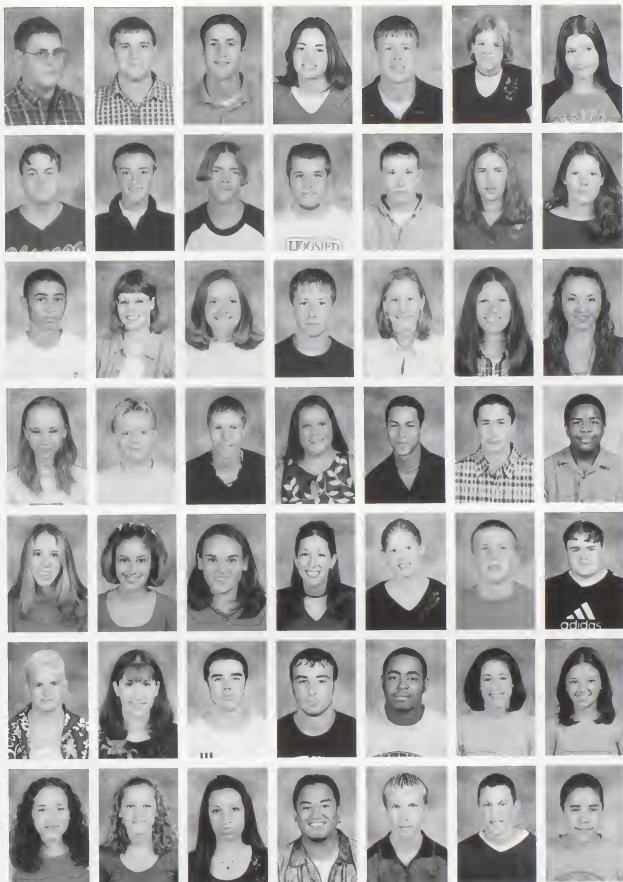
Crystal Wilcox



Kyle Krause



Nastasha Cortez



Adam McCarter
Justin McDonald
Ryan McElmurry
Andrea Melendez
Elliott Miller
Tracy Miller
Katey Milligan

Daniel Mills
Joshua Moon
Ryan Moor
Scott Negrete
Michael Nelleman
Crystal Nelson
Amanda Nichols

Brian Osika
Courtney Ostrowski
Sara Palmer
Christopher Peacock
Candice Peters
Carrie Petrowski
Amber Piekarczyk

Christina Pierce
Richard Piszczek
Nicholas Planer
Michelle Popovich
Jason Porras
Anthony Potesta
Jonathan Powell

Lindsey Powers
Michelle Prewitt
Amber Price
Julie Purgert
Deborah Race
Tyler Radtke
Vincent Repasi

Daniel Riordan
Marie Ritchey
Bret Rocchietti
Chris Rousseau
Mario Ruff
Julie Rutledge
Selena Saldana

Sara Saltanovitz
Shauna Santare
Daniela Scheeringa
David Scheeringa
Phillip Schlosberg
William Schmitt
Daniel Schoon



Lara Gonzalez



Josh Rainford



Kara Kmieg, Jessica Nieto



Julie Ristic, Krysten Fane



Nate Spitz



Jeffery Cook, Jennifer Sims, Stacy Kapickak

Kathryn Schoon
Jason Schultz
Steven Schulz
Craig Seat
Victor Sendejas
Rachel Sternizza
Kevin Shacklett

Courtney Shropshire
Justin Sidor
Jennifer Sims
Michael Sims
Rebecca Smith
Veronica Solis
Cassandra Sotos

Brad Sowinski
Breanne Steagall
Kellie Sternberg
Adam Stout
Joshua Swentzel
Kimberly Tate
Tashaya Taylor

Joshua Teague
Timothy Thirion
Maegan Thomas
Rachel Thomas
Jessica Thompson
Michael Tomaszewski
Kristina Toth



Jeremy Martin

Helping a fellow classmate, junior **Amy Walker** works on a computer during class. "I enjoy helping people with their work because it makes me feel good," Walker said.



Annie Hecht

Singing, junior **Michael Sims** walks through the halls with the other Chorale member. Chorale sings Christmas carols throughout the school the day before winter break.

What teacher had the most impact on you?



"Mr. Parker is a great teacher and I like the fact that he knows a lot about computers."
-Nicholas Planer, junior

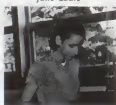
"Mrs. Beahm had the greatest impact on me because she works hard to make sure we understand the material."

-Kelly Gerdes, junior



Julie Cadle

Chris Rousseau



David Haldi



Annie Hecht



Lindsay Chapa



Alexandra Solis



Michelle Cuneo



Walking through the crowd, juniors **Michelle Prewitt** and **Nicolas Kasbohm** enjoy the moment. The two were both nominated for prom court and they attended the dance together. The prom king and queen were Jason Alexander and Stephanie Beigle.

Dumping a bucket, junior **Sarah Fry** hurries through the water bucket relay. The junior class placed second at this year's activities night.



Kelli Schwon

Courtesy of Prestige Photography



Jillian Tsirtsis
Kathleen Vanek
Angel Velez
Janis Walenkiewicz
Amy Walker
David Wesolowski
Malinda Whitaker

Dwica White
Julie White
Lance White
Jocelyn Williams
Ashley Wilson
James Wiszowaty
Joshua York

Tom Zeller
Hannah Zemke
Holly Ziemniak

Not Pictured

Melvin Ballard
Marc Brady
Jeremiah Cogdill
Eric Cordell
Henry Devries
Brandon Elam

Rodrigo Elam
Christopher Gordon
Buddy Keelen
Theresa Nagel
Ryan O'Keefe
David Stamper

Craig Travis
Crystal Wilcox



Lisa Carroll



Jon Rogowski

Allison Gatlin, Jason Lebata, Emily Coddington, Matthew Sherry, Samantha Adame, Joshua Banning, Diana Ballas, Kevin Wlazlo, Lora Melton



Joshua Handley

Nathan Laird



Jessica Everhart



Charles Abasa-Nyarko
Michelle Aguilera
Rachel Albright
Laura Anderson
Michelle Ashenbaugh
Andrew Augustyn
Joseph Baccino



Joseph Bakker
Alida Baldazo
Allison Banta
Amanda Barlog
Jennifer Berger
Steven Berger
Hillary Barnath



Mallory Bernath
Daniel Bernotus
Steven Beshears
Brianna Bieker
Quinn Bingham
Laura Blahunka
Ryan Blythe



Chris Bogacz
Quintinne Bogan
Alaina Borden
Andrew Borowski
Michael Brinker
Alda Brooks
Adam Brownfield



Plotting her next move, sophomore Jelena Damjanovic plays Connect Four with an exchange student from Valparaiso in Margie Keithley's class. The game was played to to show an example of an American game to the student.



What do you do to relax?

"When I need to relax, I like to play on the computer."

-Thomas Keown,
sophomore

"When I need to relax, I listen to music."

-Adam Lukas,
sophomore

"I sit in bed, turn on Kenny Wayne Sheppard Band and read a magazine."

-Laura Anderson,
sophomore

Class of 2002

230
total sophomores

108 Girls 121 Boys

Class Officers

President	Brittany Parent
Vice President	Ryan Blythe
Secretary	Lauren Chappell
Treasurer	Lindsay Govert

Class Sponsor

David Smith

Marissa Villaseñor, Bobby Lassiter



Joseph Malo, Quince Ballas, and Matthew Vaneck

Anne Medsker, Lindsay Chapa, and Emily Coddington



Laura Anderson

Lindsey Mantis, Stacey Jones, Myosha Scott, and Sarah Feh



William Barriga, Angel Velez



Preparing for the school day, sophomore twins, Hillary and Mallory Bernath, put their books into their locker. "I like to have a locker next to my sister," Hillary said, "It helps me to remember what homework we have."

Sophomore Favorites

Movie
Here on Earth

Food
Pizza

Restaurant
Benigan's

Store
Kohl's

Radio Station
89.6

Sport
Basketball

Band/Singer
N Sync

Color
Blue

Actress
Julia Roberts

Actor
Ryan Phillippe

"Survey of 64 students"



Visiting a show house, sophomores Claudia Nuno, Tiffany Juarez, Alaina Borden, Emily Jennings, Tara Vaznonis, and Lauren Chappell, look at pictures of houses. The interior decorating classes went on an all day field trip, visiting homes in Valparaiso. "It was fun because we got to see some pretty houses," Vaznonis said.

Goofing around at a New Year's Eve party, sophomores Joseph Tharp, Vanessa Rodriguez, and Angela Mazur get ready to celebrate the new year. "The party was so much fun because we talked and played Twister," Mazur said.



David Bryant
Julie Cadle
Jamie Campbell
Sean Carey
Christina Cavazos
Kevin Cavazos
Edward Cernia



Mitchell Cervantes
Rachel Chandler
Lauren Chappell
Shannon Churitch
Rachelle Chvostral
Brad Ciesco
Quishondia Comer



Jesse Craddock
Tom Cservenak
Letitia Cullens
Jimmy Cunningham
Jelena Damjanovic
Nichole Damron
Stephanie Daugherty

Nancy Robles



Kevin Cap, Juliann Gajewski, and Christopher Rousseau

Tammy Heft



Kelli Schoon

Mike Frye



Theresa Swetky, Paul Dalach

Time...

What to do with it?



"I like to go fishing and play basketball"
-Paul Worley, sophomore

"I like to go on the Internet and pretend that I'm someone else."
-Letitia Cullens, sophomore



"I watch cartoons or a movie. It makes me laugh and forget about my problems."
-Heather Green, sophomore

"I love to go shopping. I'll never get tired of it."
-Sarah Tomaszewski, sophomore



"Reading. I could read at least three books in a weekend."
-Brianna Bieker, sophomore

"I like to work out whenever I have time to."
-Nate Spitz, sophomore



Anna Hecht

Chowing down, sophomores Joseph Tharp and Michael Brinker eat their lunch. Some students chose to eat their lunch in the cafeteria while others chose to the brown bag area.

Chatting at their lockers, sophomores Kelly Davis and Jimmy Cunningham relax before the start of the day. "We've been locker buddies since the 7th grade," Davis said, "We talk about everything like biology classes."



Photo by Jerrold Martin

What is your most embarrassing moment?

"There was this one time I ran out of toilet paper and had to ask the person next to me for some."

-Julie Ristic, sophomore

"I rode the Zipper seven times, got sick and puked all over my white overalls."

-Kristin Lundquist, sophomore

"At Activities Night, it was raining and I slipped and fell on the bleachers."

-Jill Popovich, sophomore

"When I just learned how to walk, I ran across 45th Street naked."

-Tanya Hunt, sophomore



Jerrold Martin

Spotting her partner, Lacey Hall helps Lindsay Govert as she weight lifts during swimming practice. Hall went to all of the morning practices even though two days a week were optional. "By going to all the practices, it helped me to get ahead of all of my opponents," Hall said.



Dana Zukanovich, Craig Sims

Judy Vanselow, Kristen Fane, Jessica Nieto



Allison Gattlin, Kara Kmiec, Christina Govert, Lora Melton, Laura Worley, Beth Connell



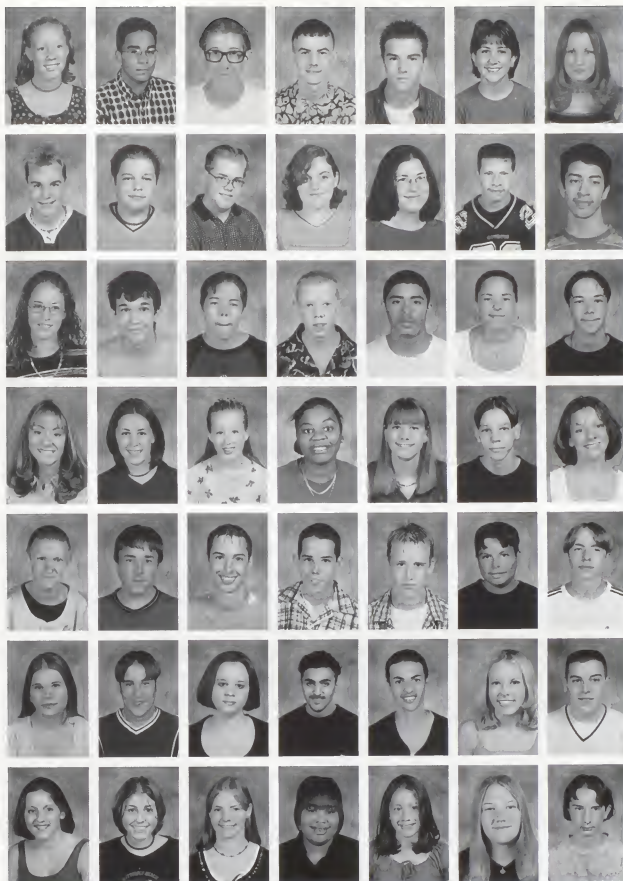
Shannon Scheidel



Jacqueline DeYoung, Adrianna Aguilar, Tiffany Kender



Sarah Handley, Kellie Sternberg, Candice Peters, Angelina Alvarez, Sarah Fry



Kelly Davis
John Dejesus
Nicholas Demske
Robert Denny
Neil Dimos
Cathy Dimovski
Stephanie Dross

Anthony Eaton
Stephen Eaton
Matthew Euber
Krysten Fane
Melissa Federenko
Steven Flores
Richard Frostick

Erica Garnett
Brian Gerenda
Chad Gilmartin
Dustin Gogal
Matthew Gonzalez
Amy Goodson
Mike Goodson

Nichole Goodwin
Lindsay Govert
Heather Green
Claunette Guise
Jessica Gulley
Kevin Guy
Lacey Hall

Raymond Hall
Daniel Hamill
Robert Hanchar
Matthew Harnew
Daniel Hart
Michael Hernandez
Matthew Horn

Tanya Hunt
Danny Hurd
Carrie Hutchinson
Ahmed Issa
Khalid Issa
Hayley Itczak
Christopher Jackson

Veronica Jacobs
Emily Jennings
Melanie Johnson
Stacey Jones
Tiffany Juarez
Karen Kelly
Thomas Keown

Kevin Wlazlo, Jason Lebata



Kathleen Vanek, Lindsay Chapa, Jessica Everhart, Susan Huss



Deborah Race

Stacie Kapciak



David Moore

Vanessa Rodriguez, Shannon Sheffield, Amanda Cervantes, Heather Green



Amber Kepple
Bryan King
Heather Klein
Justin Kobeska
Eric Koon
Chad Kroll
Ryan Kulinski



Batholomew LaBounty
Nathan Laid
Kevin Lawrence
Jaclyn Leffel
Thomas Leibengood
Mark Lewis
Anthony Logan



Amanda Lopez
Beth Loudenber
Nicole Love
Adam Lukas
Kristin Lundquist
Carrie Maldonado
Jacob Malone



Kyle Mann
Patrick Markovich
Jeremy Martin
Christine Matlock
Angela Mazur
Kelly McCabe
Michael McCarney



Frecia McMillon
Thomas Melton
Matthew Mendenhall
Megan Messinio
Daniel Michels
Johnathan Miller
Amanda Mitchell



Steven Motyka
Christina Musilek
Jessica Newell
Michelle Newland
Jessica Nieto
Claudia Nuno
Daniel O'Connor



Matthew O'Grady
Emanuel Ohunwu
Neil Oros
Bridget Ostrowski
Kevin Pagin
Brittany Parent
Brittany Paul



Meghan Tzitz



Michael Baker



Kathryn Ramsey, Joseph Bartucci



Jonathan Rix



Nicole Hart, Vanessa Hooper,
Jaci Bolsega, and Cassandra
White



Vicky Castañeda,
Anthony Potesta



Adam Pease
David Petersen
William Petersen
Shawn Pewitt
Douglas Pondo
Megan Popa
Tre Popa



Jill Popovich
Elizabeth Potesta
Blaine Powell
Brandon Powell
Christopher Quintero
Jessica Raddatz
Meghan Ralich



Kathryn Ramsey
Philip Ranck
Sarah Raybourne
Douglas Reba
David Reed
Kimberly Reymoe
John Rios



Julie Ristic
Jonathan Rix
Cyla Roby
Ginger Rockwell
Anthony Rodriguez
Vanessa Rodriguez
Jonathon Rogowski



Alexander Rossman
Stefanie Roznowski
Kristen Salczynski
Jamie Sanchez
Jimmy Satkus
Courtney Schmidt
Kyle Schofield



Mike Serbentas
Angela Serrato
Courtney Shebish
Jessica Sherbit
Marissa Sills
Ashley Smelko
Matthew Spencer



Christopher Spiegel
Nate Spitz
Nicole Steinbach
Jamie Sutton
Ryan Sutton
Teanna Sutton
Justin Swentzel



Bret Rocchietti



Jeremy Bryszcki



Ramon Rocha, Joshua Rainford, and Pamela Sims

Kimberly Reymoe, Stephanie Dross



Amanda Nicols, Kathleen Vanek, Julie Purgert, Renee Wotkun



Anne Medsker, Emily Coddington

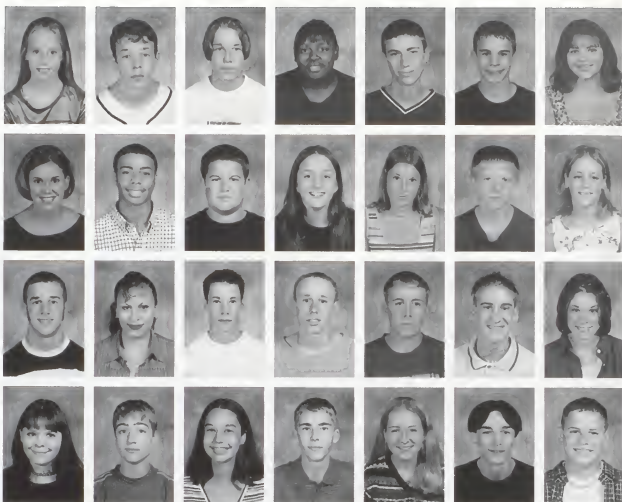


Heather Szczesniak
Aaron Taylor
Allen Taylor
Tamika Taylor
Joseph Tharp
Dale Theil
Sarah Tomaszewski

Danielle Trueblood
Jonathan Turner
Craig Van Gorp
Judy Vanselow
Tara Vaznonis
Eric Vechey
Amanda Vessell

Danny Vessell
Celina Villarreal
Craig Vucich
Brett Wartman
Ben Weatherford
Adam Wilbert
Holly Williams

Tracy Wilson
Steven Wisniewski
Cynthia Woerner
Paul Worley
Renee Workun
Brandon Zandstra
Ryan Zolcak



Not Pictured

Christopher Garnett
Tammy Milton
Mark Moore
Tim Murdock
Shannon Ray
Joseph Rosignol

Michael Stevens
Adam Stitt
Elizabeth Titus
Lea Vogel
Jimmy Watts
Vicki Yeager

Santos Zurita



As part of her morning ritual, sophomore Shannon Churitch sits with her friends, sophomores Mitchell Cervantes, Robert Denny, and Matt Euber finishing homework. "I do my work in the morning because I don't want to do it at home," Churitch said.



What is your favorite quote or saying?

"I love the quote, 'Lois can never have Superman's baby,' from *Mallrats*."

~Krysten Fane, sophomore

"Never underestimate stupid people in large groups."

~Steven Eaton, sophomore



Justin Albright



Richard Frostick



Elaine Parker



Steffen Redar



Nichole Goodwin and Jorge García Noguera



Volleyball team



Anxious to play, sophomores Renee Wotkun, Kimberly Reymore, Emily Jennings, Allison Banta, and Rachel Albright wait their turn to participate in the balloon relay race at activities night. The event was held prior to homecoming in order to raise school spirit.

Paying close attention, sophomore students listen to a lecture in one of Thom Howell's classes. Howell teaches several computer and business related courses.



Heather Klein



Church groups may not be some people's idea of fun, but for sophomore Heather Klein, it is.

"I work in the nursery, I go to a youthgroup, Jesus Christ Hardcore, and am in Remnant at school."

According to Klein, each activity gives her something.

"They're very fun," she said. "I do them mostly because of my strong belief in God, and to learn more about the Bible and different versions of it, but I also get to do them with my friends."

- Patrick McCarney

What is your favorite thing about GHS?



"I like the DECA cookies,"
- Laura Anderson,
sophomore

"I like being able to hang out with my friends,"
- Lacey Hall, sophomore



"APC, because it keeps me in shape for hockey,"
- Jonathon Rogowski,
sophomore



Robert Jensen



Carlo Gurrola



Angelina Alvarez,
Matt Fliter



Breanne Steagall and
Selenia Bermudez



Samantha Adame



Freshmen marching in
Homecoming parade

Chatting before class begins, freshmen Glenn Cundiff, Jeremy Glover, Justin Hopkins, Nealeep Dasgupta, Kiel Erickson, Justen Ricketts and sophomore Thomas Keown get prepared for their choir class to start. "I took choir because I needed two credits for my honor's diploma," Ricketts said.

Walking down the hallway, freshmen Kyle Wolfe and Amanda Toth make time for a conversation between classes. The freshman hallway was relocated from the junior high into the high school this year.



Jeremy Martin



Cores Hecht

Class of **2003**

236
Total Freshmen
106 Girls **130** Boys

Class Sponsors

Luann Morgan
Tim Powers

*Statistics provided by the Guidance Office

Kristin Domsic



Cores Hecht

Imagine for the past eight years of your life, spending four or more days a week dancing at Broad Street Dance Company. Well this is a routine week for freshman Kristin Domsic.

"I have been dancing for the past eight years because it keeps me in good shape," Domsic said. "I enjoy it very much."

Domsic has appeared in several different plays, such as *Peter Pan* and *The Nutcracker* at the Arie Crown Theatre. She has been Tinkerbell for two years and Tiger Lily for one in *Peter Pan*. Kristin has also played numerous parts in *The Nutcracker*.

"My favorite (part) was when I played Clara in *The Nutcracker* three years ago," Domsic said. "That was a lot of hard work, but it was fun the whole time I did it."

Whenever Domsic has free time away from her dance classes, she enjoys just hanging out with her friends.

- Kristin Buehler

Eating a creation from foods class, freshman Lindsey Watts takes a break and chows on her taco. There were many electives, such as foods, that have students of all grades who sign up and take them.



Annie Hecht



Vincent Repasi, Kenny Bellamy, Mario Ruff

Bobby Lassiter



Brian Moisant

Christopher Alexander



Brad Sowinski

Nichole Popovich



Douglas Stone



Ahmad Abdul
Christopher Alexander
Tim Argus
Ashley Babbitt
Marla Bagwell
Quince Ballas
Amanda Baran

Eddie Barlow
Steven Bean
Michael Becze
Giovanni Benitez
Shawn Bernicky
Jason Betts
Tabitha Black

Joey Bolsega
Ryan Brady
Kristen Buehler
Tara Bumbales
Jordan Buzza
Michael Bytnar
Teri Calhoun

James M. Campbell
Michael Carey
Stacey Caron
Jesse Carter IV
Amanda Cervantes
Kevin Chvostal
Christy Clark

Nicole Clarkson
David Collier
Julie Connell
Elijah Cook
JoAnne Cox
Richard Cox
Rachel Craddock

Ashley Crook
Jacklin Cruse
Marques Culver
Glenn Cundiff
Biljana Damjanovic
Shayne Daphsis
Jamie Darnell

Nealdeep Dasgupta
Kristin Domsic
Bonnie Dunnett
Ashley Enloe
Erica Erdmann
Kiel Erickson
Clarissa Farr

Amanda Nichols



David Moore

Andrew Augustyn



Tani Werner, Danielle
Rossman, Melissa Stevens

Nikki Geffert, Claire
Hudacin, Kelly Gerdes



Nicholas Jovanovich

Christopher Gordon

Nathaniel Fentress
Joshua Fitzsimons
Katie Florey
Hillary Forsythe
Andrew Frazee
Daryl Frey
Christine Frostick



Mike Frye
Krystina Fundich
Matthew Gadberry
Jessica Galmore
Carolyn Gardner
Ramon Garibay
Matthew Geffert



Jaclyn Gerdes
Krystle Gerenda
Emily Gierman
Nicole Gill
Emily Giltmier
Michael Gleim
Jeremy Glover



Chris Gorecki
Tom Gorecki
Aaron Govert
Summer Granter
Nicholas Green
Rachel Grimmer
Paul Gulota



Carlo Gurrola
Scott Haldi
Michele Hall
Charley Hancock
Angelina Hanson
Corey Hecht
Crystal Heinrichs



Kerri Hill
Jason Hoefferle
Justin Hopkins
Rochelle Huber
Scott Hudnall
Jeremy Humble
Al'a Issa



Lauren Jawowka
Dorothea James
Isaiah James
Andy Jarmakowicz
Jennifer Jasaitis
Ebonye Jenkins
Kevin Jerred



John Jensen, William Barriga



Candice Peters



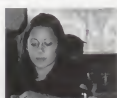
Shannon Thiel

Nicholas Crawford, Emily Coddington



Andrea Melendez,
Don Whittemore

Colleen Vechey, Sarah Govert,
Brooks Smith, Selena Saldana



Tiffany Juarez



Alexis Jimenez
Keyna Johnson
Kendell Johnstone
Billy Jones
Elizabeth Jones
Carolyne Joseph
Vicki Juarez



Marcin Karbowiczek
Kelly Kearney
Justin Keelen
Nicholas Kemp
Kate Kessel
Kevin Kiel
Thomas Kielbasa



Sonnie Kireta
Stephanie Kolisz
Jeffrey Konopasek
Sarah Kukuch
Roy LaBarge
Richard Lamendola
Raul Larios



Amanda Laurencell
Nathan Laviolette
Nicole Laviolette
Jason Leal
Jason Lewis
Paul Lewis
Aaron Lopez



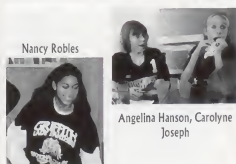
Carolyn Lopez
Cortney Loudneber
Bradley MacFarlane
Joseph Malo
Danielle Marino
Joseph Martin
David Martin III



Michelle Matamoros
Elaine Mazalan
Patrick McCarney
Katrina McGrew
Jennifer Mears
Jon Melendez
Rebecca Mercks



Andrew Mikolajczyk
Brian Miles
Thomas Miller
Damian Mitchell
Daniel Moore
Joseph Moore
Torian Morgan



Nancy Robles

Angelina Hanson, Carolyne Joseph



Christy Clark, Julie Connell



Veronica Jacobs



Sarah Bacan, Kathleen Vaneck



Laura Worley



Angela Mazur

Rachel Murawski
Ben Murphy
Brianna Nagy
Christen Nash
Kevin Nicholls
Kelly O'Connor
Kelly Owczarski



Michael Pachowicz
Matthew Papa
Christina Paris
Danielle Paul
Amanda Pinkerton
Stephanie Pinkerton
Melissa Powell



Andrew Raduski
Lisa Redar
Steffen Redar
Christina Redden
Justin Ricketts
Daniel Riese
Justin Rizzo



Elena Rodriguez
Adam Ryzak
Christina Saldana
Valerie Saltanovitz
Stacey Scalzitti
Shannon Scheidel
Lesley Schofield



Cacey Hecht

Talking with math teacher Eric Schilling, freshman Nathaniel Fentress stands at his desk asking a question. "Mr. Schilling is my favorite teacher," Fentress said. "He's pretty funny too."

Constructing his tic-tac-toe board, freshman Ahmad Abdul paints on the finishing touches. This is one of the many projects that the manufacturing systems class does.



Annie Hecht

Freshman Favorites

Movie
American Pie

Restaurant
Bennigans

Food
Chinese

Radio Station
89.6

Band/Singer
N Sync

Sport
Basketball

Actress
Julia Roberts

Actor
Ryan Phillippe

Color
Blue

Store
American Eagle

*Survey of 40 freshmen



Amy Walker, Lauren Biehle, Julie Ristic, Kristen Salczynski, Rachel Sferenza



Karen Kelly



Stephanie Bridegroom, Kim Vessel



Courtney Ostrowski, Crystal Wilcox



Brandon Smelko



Chuck Lau, Kelly Mann

What were your biggest fears about high school?



"My biggest fear was not making varsity for soccer."
-Jordan Buzea, freshman



"I was pretty worried that I would feel out of place."
-Megan Steapleton, freshman

"I was worried that everyone would not like me."
-Katie Florey, freshman



Jr. High VS High school

"The new experience, getting to class on time, and the older kids were hard to adjust to."

-Dan Riese, freshman

"Going from being the oldest to being the youngest was hard, but I like the mix of grades in the classes I take."

-Summer Granter, freshman

"The sports are a lot better. I also work harder in high school to achieve my goals."

-Daryl Frey, freshman

"There are more classes in high school. Also, I work harder and study more because I know it affects my future."

-Elijah Cook, freshman



Corey Hecht

Taking some time off of his daily work, freshman **Steven Bean** reads an issue of the *Panther Press*. Bean has a subscription to *Panther Press* and reads every issue.



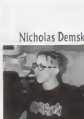
Nathan Schoon
Heather Schultz
Trixie Shuzer
Virginia Scott
Alison Scurto
Alex Sepulveda
Dawn Serruza



Eric Sims
Ashley Smith
Alexandra Solis
Andrew Sosa
Lisa Stalbaum
Stephanie Staples
Megan Steapleton



Melissa Stevens
Benjamin Stokes
Douglas Stone
Nicole Strauss
Jorrell Strawder
Kalynn Suba
Mickey Sutton



Nicholas Demske

Shawn Pewitt

Craig Sims

Jacqueline DeYoung

Adam Brownfield, Scott Negrete

Emily Jennings

Mira Damjanovic

Grabbing their letters, freshmen **Krystina Fundich** and **Crystal Heinrichs** get prepared to walk down Broad Street for the Homecoming parade. The freshmen decorated their float with a '90s theme.

Waiting for a ride home, freshman **JoAnne Cox** sits on the ledge, outside of the breezeway. Many freshmen waited for rides home or got rides home from older students because they can't drive.



Kelli Schoon



Annie Hecht

What does being a freshman mean to me?

Being in ninth grade means taking on new responsibilities, like making sure we have all the credits we need to graduate. The biggest responsibilities are making better decisions about our lives ahead. Also we have to decide if we want to make something of ourselves after we graduate, or if we want to throw our education away.

The good things about being a freshman are being able to join clubs like French club and Spanish club. Having upper classmen to look up to is good. Upperclassmen help you when you talk to them and tell you what teachers and classes are cool.

The bad things about being in ninth grade are having the older kids pick on you. Another bad thing is when you're in sports and the upper classman make you get the equipment and put it away.

Coming into ninth grade, I was very much intimidated. Knowing that I would

have classes with kids in different grades was weird. After a while I got used to it because the older kids were helpful.

One of the big events that the freshman class got to attend was Homecoming activities night. That was a great experience because last year we couldn't wait to be a part of it.

Being a part of the volleyball team and seeing the varsity team make it all the way to Regionals was great. They made school history and we were there to see it. It meant a lot.

Being in ninth grade is knowing that we have gone through a lot of hard work already. We have accomplished and achieved so many goals but our biggest accomplishment is yet to come.

The best thing about being in ninth grade is most definitely knowing that we are a year closer to graduating high school.

-Angelina Hanson, contest winner

What is your biggest pet peeve?

"When people crack their knuckles because it sounds so disgusting."

-Ashley Babbitt, freshman

"When people cut you off and just walk right in front of you."

Also, when people walk on your feet really gets on my nerves."

-Justin Hopkins, freshman

"When people assume too much because it happens all the time, and it is annoying."

-Michael Becze, freshman

"Hypocrites. When people say they don't do things and still do them anyway. It's really annoying."

-Elizabeth Jones, freshman



Tiffany Juarez, Lauren Chappell



Amber Price



Linda Einsele, Stacie Kapciak



Shannon Hammers



Breanne Seagally, Don Whittemore



Nicholas Planer



Timothy Swanson
Michael Swart
Brad Taylor
Nathan Taylor
Shannon Thiel
Amanda Toth
Justin Tristin

Darrick Tucker
Mary Turkowski
Christopher Ullich
Ben Vallefuoco
Matthew Vanek
Ethan Victory
Robert Wagman

Lindsey Watts
Ashley Willford
Cliff Wilson
Robert Wimberly
Zachary Withers
Kyle Wolfe
Nicole Zakrzenski

Kathryn Zubrenic

Not Pictured

Bryan Austin
Derrick Barham
Lorenzo Bartholomew
Adam Brink
Jacob Christenson

Stanley Degand
Monica DeLong
Jason Fisk
Tamika Fultz
Brandon Jastrzebski

Terrance Lewis
Xavier Martinez
Ashley McCaskell
Davita Monagan
Jenifer Santana



Amos Hecht



Jerome Martin

Signing a banner, freshman **Julie Connell** attends a cast party for the play, *Sugar*, at senior **Diana Ballas'** house. There were cast parties after every show and the whole cast and crew attended.

Getting prepared to work out, freshman **Megan Steapleton** straps herself to Vertimax. The swim teams practiced at 5:30 in the morning and after school to get prepared for their meets.



Janis Walenkiewicz



Renee Wotkun



The Pantherettes and the Marching Band



Kathryn LaFayette



Cassandra White



Angel Velez

Jim Anderson
Nancy Ashton
Diana Bowman
Lisa Bubala
Darryl Carstensen
Teresa Carstensen
Irma Coddington



Martha Davis
Barbara Deleget
Thomas J. Deskovich
Ronald Divjak
Michelle Duffala
Chuck Emlund
Linda L. Einsele



Scott D. Fech
Timothy Foss
Jack Gabor
James M. Graff
Jacqueline Hanson
Robert Hastings
Lawrene Hawthorne



Lynn Heller
Jean Herd
Jennifer Hoemann
Brian Jennings
Margie Keithley
Kathy Keller
Bernice Koby



Shuffling through papers, Kay Orzechowicz, English, works on her daily activities. Orzechowicz attended Griffith High School and graduated in 1981.



Victor Schlegel

Saying Goodbye to Legends..

Four GHS teachers retire after over 25 years.

Ron Divjak



Health. Department Chair
Taught at GHS for 28 years

Larry E. Parker



Tech. Ed.. Department Chair
Taught at GHS for 25 years

Robert D. Witt



Art. Department Chair
Taught at GHS for 31 years

Herb Noonan



Physical Education
Taught at GHS for 26 years



Tom Zeller

Deborah Race



Janis Walenkiewicz,
Kelly Gerdes

David Colby



Freshmen

James M. Graff



Chatting with a parent, Daniel R. McCoy, history, sits at Open House. Open House was held in the fieldhouse and only parents were allowed to attend.



Amie Hecht

The School Board (From Left to Right) **Back Row:** Michael Dobosz, Daniel Govert, William Gall, John Galambos, Richard Anderson **Front Row:** James Reyome, Carl Konopasek, Tom Schatzman, Sarah Cundiff



Mark Swanson
Sheila Vaclavik
Jan Vanderwaal
Don Whittemore

Not Pictured

Sandra M. Beahm
Carolyn Brown
Ruth Carmichael
Ed Hanko
Thom Howell
Sheree Kayden

Jeff Kubaszyk
Katherine Martinez
Daniel R. McCoy
Robert McDermott
Lisa Megquier
Catherine Mendenhall
Nikki Miklusak

Luann Morgan
Cory P. Moyer
Larry E. Parker
Timothy Powers
Steven Prather
Russ Radtke
Diane Ritter

Eric Schilling
David Smith
James Smith
Veronica Smith
Paula Snyder
Cynthia Spejewski
Judith Surovek

Herb Noonan
Kay Orzechowicz
Susan V. Patrick
James Pickett
Bill Platt
Theresa Swetky
Kim Vessell
Robert D. Witt
Marilyn Young



Jordan Buzea



Pamela Sims



Kyle Krause



Justin Newell



Stephanie Beigle



Angel Velez, Shauna Santare,
Kimberly Reyome

Coaching a tug-of-war game, Timothy Powers, history, gives encouragement to the freshmen boys during Activities Night. Powers was the freshman class sponsor and the Student Council sponsor.

Visiting the Business Law class, Officer Greg Stevens and Assistant Principal Robert McDermott give a speech. The speech included procedures policemen take with search policies with lockers and throughout school.



Jessica Everhart



Victor Sendejas

Mastering a creation, Robert D. Witt, art, works on one of his pots. Witt is one of the sponsors of the Art Club and has been a teacher at GHS since 1969. "I think I have been a positive influence on a lot of students," Witt said. "I will miss all of them."



Kelvin Schuon

Facts on the faculty

- 13 Different teaching departments
- 52 Number of teachers
- 11 Number of teachers that are coaches
- 25 Number of male teachers
- 3 teachers who teach middle school and high school
- 27 Number of female teachers



Julie Purgert



Michael Hernandez



Holly Williams, Andrew Textor, Ashley Williams



Marc Brady



Craig Sims



Stefanie Roznowski

"What'd you say?"

Match the correct saying with the teacher who always says it.

- A) "Your *what* hurts?"
- B) "Watch out for the imaginary roots"
- C) "Team up for clean up."
- D) "What part of sit down don't you understand?"
- E) "It's time to role the dice of destiny."

Answers: 1) E. 2) A. 3) D. 4) C. 5) B



1) Ed Hanko



2) Daniel R. McCoy



3) Carolyn Brown



4) Sandra M. Beahm



5) Bill Platt



Annie Hecht

Chatting amongst each other, Don Whittemore, science, and Irma Coddington, foreign language, visit in the hallway. Whittemore also was the Junior Varsity volleyball coach.

Helping out with ACES students, Scott D. Fech, foreign language, teaches in the court yard. Many of the high school teachers worked with the middle school ACES students throughout the year.



Victor Sendejas



Lisa Skura

Kathleen Vanek



Jon Melendez



Cliff Wilson



Nicholas Crawford,
Diana Ballas



Jaci Bolsega, Amanda Nichols



One by one, students fled from the building into their cars, making plans for the first night of their school-free weekend. Some went to work at places like Strack and Van Til or Schoops, where they carried out bags for shoppers or took food orders. There was a rush around the holidays of students filling out applications at places like Kohls, Target, Metjer, and, K-Mart, when the seasonal workers were wanted. The rush came back again in the spring when students had to start looking for that "perfect" summer job. Some decided they had found it at Dairy Queen, Frank's Nursery and Crafts, or Allen Landscaping, but everyone else either settled for a less than perfect job, many times in fast food, or decided to take the vacation off.

For many students, the money they earned at work got recycled right back into the local businesses. Dave and Lee's was a frequent stop before school for some breakfast, as was Burger King or 7-11 for a quick bite. For new 'do's, students flocked to Accents or Hair Fashions by Charles, especially around Turnabout or Prom time. At the end of the year, seniors planning graduation parties ordered cakes from Patty Cake and chicken or mostaccioli from Griffith Meat Market. Whatever the reason, local companies got a lot of business from Griffith students.

The more students worked, the more they became involved in the community. Some worked their way into supervisor positions, such as senior **Bobby Cassiter** at Pizza Hut and senior **David Moore** at Pizza Pete's. These students took charge and were rewarded for their hard work, not only by an increase in wages, but by the respect their co-workers showed them.

Money grew tight at the end of the year, especially for the seniors, as numerous fines had to be paid and the summer rush for new clothes began. But this didn't stop students from patronizing the local businesses. Whether by working or buying, students got very involved in the community and enriched the whole town.

~Jessica Everhart

Clockwise from top left: Senior **Lisa Skura** gets her hair done for Prom at Hair Fashions by Charles. Freshmen **Eddie Barlow** and **Derrick Tucker** look through pictures at Larry Titak Photography's table at the Career Fair in the Fieldhouse. Junior **James Baggary** grabs a quick bite to eat at Burger King in on 45th Avenue. Senior **Matthew Halner** checks out at Strack and Van Til. Senior **Hayley Baccino** slices bread for a sub while working at Subway. Taking a customer's money, **Valencia Jackson** works the register at Wendy's. Behind: Students groove to the tunes at Prom, which was a big spending time for many.





Adrianna E. Aguilar



First and foremost I would like to thank God, for keeping you embraced in his arms throughout these years. Eighteen years ago you were born and since then you have given us so much love and happiness to our family. We are so proud of you. You've grown up to be a kind, considerate, loving, and most important of all a responsible and independent young lady. The time has come for you to spread your wings and fly. I know you'll be the best you can be, and all we want is for you to be happy. Let your inner will guide and direct you to whatever the future brings you. You have always made us proud. We also want to thank you for making these years easy for us to experience along with you. You're a wonderful daughter and sister. As you take your first steps into adulthood remember that we love you very much and we'll always be there for you.

Good Luck Nena!

Love you,
Dad, Mom, Sal, and Sefia

Diana Ballas



We've so enjoyed your drama. Your accomplishments have been thrilling!
-Grandma, Grandpa

The future is yours! Reach for the stars
God's Speed:

Love,
Uncle Greg, Marcadene, Bob, Deb

Cheers to your high school fun, laughter,
and activities. Many more cheers to your future.

-Diana

Your accomplishments thus far speak
volumes. Your integrity, stamina, and
courage will always give you opportunity
to lead. Your character will always attract
supporters. I couldn't be more proud.
-Dad

Justin Albright



Dear Justin,

I am so very proud
of you. I pray for your
happiness and success in
whatever you decide to
do. Remember I am
always here for you.

I love you.

Mom

Diana Ballas



Diana

D is for darling, such a lovely
child.

I is for ideal, adorable smile.

A is for appealing, hugs to share.

N is for nice, generous and fair.

A is for affectionate, a gift from
above.

Diana, so precious and loved.

Love, Mom

Kyle Alexander



We are so proud of the
young man you have
become. Our home has
always been full of laughter
and joy because of you and
your friends. We will always
cherish these memories. The
future is yours. Set your goals
high and reach for the sky.
We love you and will always
be there for you as you
venture off to new
experiences.

Love you,
Mom and Dad

Colin Banta



Colin,

You are a unique, special
person. It's been fun watching
you grow up. You've always
been full of surprises and
probably always will be. Be
proud of yourself in all you do
and everything else will be
O.K. Enjoy the rest of your life.
It's precious. We love you very
much.

Mom, Dad, and Alison

Victoria Thayer Melliza Anderson



What a joy you are
to us.

And look how you
turned out!

You make us
proud!

With all our love,
Mom and Dad

Matt Boilek



Dear Matt,

It has been exciting and
wonderful watching you grow
up and mature into the fine
young man you are today.

"If you believe that all you
have achieved is only a spark
of potential that burns within
you, one day you will find
yourself among the stars."

-Melanie Hoffner

We believe in you!!
Love Mom, Dad, and Jeremy

Jacqueline M. Bolsega



Jaci,
How fast the last 17 years have gone. You have brought the entire family lots of laughs and good memories. Follow your dreams, Babe. Good luck in the future. You will be missed when you go to college.

All our love,
Mom, Dad, and Joe

Emily Coddington



Dear Emily,

We are so proud of you and all of your accomplishments over the years. You have brought us so much fun and laughter. I pray you'll always "be happy". We're going to miss watching "Lady Panthers" and especially our 10, but the wonderful memories will last forever. Remember to follow your heart and your dreams will come true.

We love you!
Mom- Dad - Michael -Matthew

Lindsay Chapa



Congratulations! We are very proud of you. You have filled our hearts with laughter and joy. May your dreams come true and may you have great luck in what ever you do! Our love and support goes with you as you start a new chapter in your life!

Love,
Mom and Steve

David Colby



David,
We are so proud of you for all you have done and the person you have become. Wishing you all of life's best.

Love,
Dad, Mom and Casey

Greg Cooper

You went from G.I. Joe to Ninja Turtles. Then, you survived all the mishaps of gym class. We can't believe it's time for you to graduate. You've grown into a fine young man -- we love you and are so proud of you!

Love, Mom and Terry

Beth Connell



Beth,

Congratulations graduate! We are so proud of you and all you've accomplished. You are a confident, responsible and talented daughter, sister and friend. We wish you continued success and happiness in all you do. You deserve only the best and settle for nothing less. All our love and support,
Mom, Dad, Julie and Bradley

Mike Cservenak



Mike,
Can it be true that your high school days are over? It has been fun and exciting watching you. We are so proud of the fine young man you've become. Thanks for the laughter and memories. We will be there for you in your continued education and success. Remember to check in!

Much Love,
Mom, Dad, Tom, Julie, Tanner

Heather Cope



To our senior, Heather,

Eighteen years have gone by so quickly. It seems just like yesterday we brought you home for the very first time. We are very proud of you. We wish you all the success and happiness as you enter your adult life. We love you very much,
Mom and Dad, Steven, Winston, and Chevy

Jackie DeYoung



To our beautiful daughter,
We thank God every day for
being blessed with you. What
a wonderful carousel ride we
have had the pleasure to
accompany you on. We have
watched you grow up from that
little girl who chopped her
hair, to an ambitious, self-
motivated young woman (w/
awesome hair!). Keep your
eyes fixed on your goals and
dreams-you will succeed.
We're behind you 100%!

With all our love,
Dad, Mom, & Steve

Allison Gatlin



Dearest Allison,

You have gone from your
dad's "Li'l Tyke" and my
brownie to a beautiful,
intelligent young lady. And
we could not be more proud.
In your life ahead we wish you
happiness, success and the
very best that life has to offer.

Love Always,
Mom, Dad, Sarah &
Mallory

Jessica Everhart



Dear Jessica,

You have grown into a
beautiful young lady and we
are very proud of all that you
have accomplished so far. In
the future, continue to "reach
high, for stars lie hidden in
your soul. Dream deep, for
every dream precedes the goal!"
(from your quote book).

Love you always and forever,
Mom and Dad

Demetri Georgis

Demetri,

From the time Mom and Dad brought you home, to back
in the days of teaching you to bat left-handed, and throwing passes
around the gazebo. I look back and it makes me smile. You were
just a little baller, now you're a young man, and I couldn't be
more proud of you. You're a worrier, stay strong my brother. You'll
always be in my heart with unconditional love.

Love,
Your brother Pete

Demetri,

Remember no matter what you do, always "Toe, Ball,
Heel." Thank you for the wonderful young man you've become.
Love you, Seidy

Amber Farr



Amber, words cannot
express the pride we have in
what a beautiful, responsible,
young woman you've become.
You've been a wonderful
blessing and a joy to us, and we
treasure every memory and
moment yet to come. We
know with your talent, self-
confidence, and determination
you will accomplish whatever
you set out to do. Always
remember how much we love
you and that we will always be
there for you.

Love Mom, Dad, Clarissa

Demetri Georgis

You're graduating and moving on to bigger and
better things in life and in the years ahead, I look forward to
hearing about your accomplishments and proudly telling
everyone that you are my brother. You are a unique person
and only you can do whatever it takes to follow your dreams.
My advice as you move on in the world—just remember to
choose your goals carefully and find what interests you and
pursue them and don't be afraid to make mistakes, you usually
learn valuable lessons from them. And when things are not
going right, don't give up—just try harder.
I know you are a determined and talented person and I have
no doubts that you will succeed in anything you set your
heart out to do.

Congratulations and best of luck to you in college.

With Love,
Your Sister Maria

Abby Forbes



Abby,

Congratulations on all
your accomplishments!
College is ahead with new and
exciting experiences. Never
lose sight of your dreams or
the faith in yourself to achieve
the things that you desire.
Enjoy what life brings you and
be happy. I'm proud and lucky
to have you as my daughter.

Love,
Mom

Demetrios Georgis



Demetrios,

You have brought us
more joy and pride than you
can ever imagine. Keep your
positive attitude, terrific
smiling personality and you'll
succeed in whatever you decide
to do.

We wish you success in
achieving your goals, and hope
all your dreams come true.

Congratulations,
We Love You!
Mom & Dad

Carrie Ann Giltmier



Slowly, timidly, she creeps from the shadows onto the path....
She steps gingerly, fear hidden behind the brightest blue eyes....
Over time, the lessons of glorious victories & stunning defeats are meshed into an understanding of life's terms....
Over time, her wide-eyed wonder becomes steadily-eyed resolution....
She rides the wind....
And sees that this path merges into a larger one....
New turns, new fears....
She smiles, she begins again....
The journey continues.

Love,
Mommy & Bobby

Josh Handley



Dear Josh:
We are so proud of you.
You have filled our home with laughter and your wonderful friends. We will miss you terribly when you are gone at college.

Love,
Mom, Dad & Sarah

Erin N. Gervais

May your high school years be forever wonderful memories and your future be bright and exciting.

Good Luck, Erin
We Love You
Mom & Dad

Tammy M. Heft



You're a very special daughter and sister. You keep us laughing. We're very proud of you and we love you very much.

Dad, Mom, Tina, &
Jason

Oh, Don't forget- Be home before the street lights go on!!!

Cara Gonzalez



Lara-

It's hard to believe that you will soon end a chapter in your book of life. Thank you for all the great memories (Pom State Championship). Remain true to yourself and always remember that we love you very much.

Love,
Mom & Dad

Good Luck at IU Remember Your
Bloomington! Guardian Angel is watching you....

Claire Hudacin



Congratulations
& Best of luck
in the Future.

Love,
Mom & Dad

Christina Govert



Sena,

Who would have guessed when your nickname was created by your sister at her age of two, that it would have stuck. But like your name, you also have been so special and unique as your great talents and many accomplishments have shown. From Pantherettes, academics, sports, and clubs- you've shined in them all. Thank you for these wonderful years. We know you'll continue with great success.

Love,
Mom & Tracy

Susan Huss



Thank You GHS for Educating
Mary (Huss) Thom '83,
Salutatorian

Joseph Huss '84-#12

Matthew Huss '87-#7

Andrew Huss '89-#8

Jennifer Huss '93,

Valedictorian

Anna Huss '96, Salutatorian

Susan Huss, 2000,

Valedictorian

We're proud of you all!

Love, Mom & Dad

Jacob Johnson



Jacob,

Through all the years
and all the tears and all
the good times too.

No matter which road
to success you go, we
will ALWAYS love you!

Mom, Dad and Jeff

Katie Lafayette



Katie,

With all that you have
accomplished we know
your future is filled with
many successes and fun
along the way. We are so
very proud of you and look
forward to sharing in what
the future holds.

Love,

Mom, Dad, Anna & Rob

Kara Kniec



Kara,

From your first day
of school until your
last, you have been an
inspiration. The love
of your family will go
on forever. God Bless
you and keep you in
his arms.

Love Dad, Mom,
Philip, Sam, Jazz, and
Kayla

Christina Lopez

Congratulations, on all of your
accomplishments. You have come a long
way since I met you. We are so very proud
of what you have become and I know your
future will even be better. Good luck in
college and know our doors are always
opened to you. We love you like a
daughter.

Love you lots,
Tom & Gina

Kyle Konopasek



Kyle,

Congratulations, we are
so proud of you! Thanks for
all the great high school
memories. Good luck in
all that you do and
remember we'll always be
there for you.

Love,

Mom, Dad,
Craig, Jeff, and David

Tim Malo



Tim,

Congratulations! Thank you
for being yourself- a thoughtful
brother and son. We're so
proud of all your
accomplishments, which
brought us years of happiness
and smiles. Even long ago,
you had a sense of direction
and the drive to succeed. May
God's blessings follow you on
your road. We believe in you.

Love

Mom, Dad, Bob, & Joe

Kyle Krause



For Our Son Kyle Krause,

As we watch one phase of
your journey end and another begin,
one thing that we, as well as you, can
be sure of is that you are a person to
be proud of. You are sensitive, but
strong, with the courage to follow
your own path, to know and do what
is right for you. We can wish nothing
more than that your life will hold a
future of happiness. We love you and
are very glad that you are our son.

Shawn Medsker



Shawn,

Four years down - Four to go.
Remember to keep the Lord
Above you to inspire you,
Below you to support you
Ahead of you to guide you
And may he protect you and
accompany you today and every
day of your life.
Believe in yourself that you can
move mountains. We Do!
Thanks for the great football
memories.

Good-Luck at IU.

Love,

Mom & Dad

Cora Melton



Congratulations to a beautiful young lady who will always be our "baby." May you find happiness in all you do. We are proud of all your accomplishments and will always treasure the memories you have given us.

Love,
Mom, Dad, and Ryan

Angela Love Parent



To our little "Angel Love,"
Right from the start you have kept us laughing with your wonderful humor. We're sure you'll go far with your quick wit and charm.

Love,
Mom & Dad

Justin Newell



Dear Justin,
May your blessings be many,
Your failures be few.
Good luck with your future,
We are so proud of you!
With Love,
Mom, Dad and Jessica

Jessica Pavich



Jess,
You've come a long way baby!
We're proud of you. Good job!
Love, Kim, Kari,
Bissy, Robert,
and Mom

Julie Newman



Congratulations! We are very proud of you and all your accomplishments. We love you very much and will always be here for you. We know you have everything it takes to be whatever you want. JUST FOLLOW THAT STAR!
Love,
Mom, Dad & Brett

Melissa Petersen



To our little Angel,
You have made us so proud. It's been so much fun watching you grow up and play sports. Always be positive and outgoing and continue to work hard to get what you want in life. You deserve all the happiness you can get. We know you will do great at whatever your future brings.
Love,
Mom, Dad & David

Angela Cove Parent



Ang,
Thanks for being such a wonderful sister. You've helped to make our days brighter with your crazy sense of humor. We hope you go on to do whatever makes you happy. Just remember it seems like it's going to be a hot day today.
Love,
Britt & Misty

Samantha Quintero



Our Sam,
It has been such a pleasure watching you grow up from our little Princess to our beautiful young lady. You have made us so proud of all your accomplishments as a daughter, student, and athlete. It has been an honor as your parents & family to follow your athletic career and think about how much we will miss it. We wish you the best in everything that you do and we will be with you every step of the way as we always have been. You can count on us. We love you from head to toe.
Love Mom and Dad Q,
Carissa, Chris, & Anthony

Cory Rakes



Son:

Follow your dreams. Let your spirit shine through. What you believe determines what you become as you journey through life's ups and downs!

Love,
Mom & Dad

Eric Salczynski

Eric-

We're so proud of you and all the things you've done. Being who you are and believing in yourself got you this far. Next stop, Purdue! Here's to the "white lab coat!"

We love you- Mom, Dad, Kristen,
Carolyn & Jennifer
XO

Michael R. Reyna



It seems like only yesterday that you were just learning how to walk and talk, and now you are in high school. We loved watching you as you were growing up and all the things you did to make us laugh and make us so very proud.

With all our love,
Mom and Dad

Craig Sims



Craig,
There is something special about the first child. You've never stopped making us proud of you. We cannot put into words how much we have enjoyed watching you grow up. We will always be here for you. In the game of life you will be a winner. This is only the beginning. Go out and make the most of it!

Love ya always,
Mom & Dad

Heather Rivera



In the blink of an eye you have grown into a beautiful, special, young lady. I am very proud of who you have become. Good luck into the future of motherhood. I know in my heart you are going to be a good little mama. Take everything the future has to hold and cherish every memory. You'll always be my little Bubbba.

Love you lots & bunches,
Tom & Crazy Mama

Pamela Sims

Pamela -

You are a unique person, very talented in so many ways, and have accomplished so much. Keep up the good work. Also, thank you for being a loving, generous sister and a beautiful loving daughter. Don't change a thing, we're very proud of you. Good luck with your future and may God bless you!

Love,
Mom, Dad, Laura & Charlene

Ramón A. Rocha



Congratulations Ramón! We love you! We are very proud of you. You are doing great. The future awaits for you. We hope that this is not your last graduation.

Cisa Skura



Thank you for 18 years of smiles and adventure. I know you will succeed at whatever you put your mind to.

Love,
Mom and Dad

Caleb Smith



Caleb (Bud),
Congratulations "mi
amore!" We are so proud of
you. Aim high and remember
to carry that smile and sense
of humor with you always.
We wish you love, health,
happiness, and support for the
future.

Love,
Mom, Dad, Heather,
& Sarah

Colleen Vechey



Colleen,
Congratulations! You are
such a terrific young lady and we
are so very proud of you. Best of
luck in your future and
remember that we are always
there for you. We will miss you
on the soccer field. You made it
such fun to watch. Enjoy your
college life and know that we
love you so very much.

Love,
Mom, Dad, Eric, Bridgett &
Peanut too!

Carry Swentzel



Larry,
Congratulations! We are so
proud of you and your many
accomplishments. You have
worked so hard and become a fine
young man. Best of luck in
college. We know you will be a
great teacher.

With all our love,
Mom, Dad, Josh, Justin,
Tazmyn, Michelle,
Aunt Madeline, and
Uncle Bill

Tani Werner



Dear Tani,
Congratulations! Good Job!
We are all very proud of you &
know that you will do very well
as you pursue college & all your
future dreams & goals. You are
a friend's friend. Stay that way
always. Have fun while you
hang in there! Always
remember that we all love you
very much & no matter what
you do in life we'll always be
there for you.

Love,
Mom, Dad, Bill, & Tina

Nick Taylor



In Memory of Nick Taylor

Some people come into our lives
and quickly go.
Some stay for a while & leave
footprints on our hearts,
And we are never ever the same.

Gone But Never Forgotten

Shawn and Family

Cassie White



Congratulations! It seems
like yesterday that you
came into our lives. We
wish you a future filled
with success & happiness.
You'll take a piece of our
hearts with you wherever
life takes you. Good luck
and best wishes.

Mom, Dad, Lisa, &
Mikie

Nick Taylor



In Memory of Nicholas Taylor

Some days we sigh and some days
we smile, but the memory of you is
a constant presence and comfort.
Although you are absent from our
sight, you continue to provide us
with inspiration. As Homer said,
"Even his griefs are joy long after
to one that remembers all that he
wrought and endured."

Forever in our thoughts,
Kyle Krause
Bob & Dody Russell

Kevin Wlazlo



Congratulations Kevin! We
are all so proud of you! You have
grown into such an awesome young
man. Thanks for all the
entertaining memories you've given
us. Remember that your angel mom
is cheering you on every day, as we
all are and always will. Kev, work
hard to have the best life possible.
You have it in you, and it will all be
worth it!

Love always,
Dad, Mom, Lucy, Mike, Rob, Brian
Brandon, Breanne

Caura Worley



Yofam4: Thumbs up Swirls

Yofam4: Keep up the great work!
We're so proud of you!!

Yofam4: When you become
famous, don't forget us...

Yofam4: j/f :) :) :) :)

Yofam4: Stay N*sync!

Dana Zukanovich



Dana,

Young woman, our daughter
our joy and our heart,
You've reached the end
only to find a new start!
The world sees the young woman
with her charm and her smile,
but behind the woman,
we will always see a child.

Good Luck and Best Wishes with
everything you do
Love,
Mom and Dad

Shawn Zolcak



Shawn,

You have filled our hearts
and our home with laughter, love
and wonderful memories. We can't
believe the time has come for you
to spread your wings and fly. (Look
out Bloomington!!)

May God's blessings follow your
new road and remember always be
happy and that you are always
loved.

You have what it takes so we
know you will reach your goals!

Love you bunches Dad, Mom,
Michael and Ryan (and Mandy
too.)

Jason Tomcsi

Congratulations, Jason. I knew from your
very first day in journalism class that you
would make a great leader. You've gone above
and beyond my expectations as Panther Press
editor, and I know you'll continue to impress
people. Just remember who your journalism
teacher was when you give your inaugural
speech!

Love, Miss Brown

The Crushers

Lisa Carroll
Hayley Baccino
Tammy Heft
Jaci Bolsega
Katie Redar
Lora Melton
Caryn Miller
Juliann Gajewski
Colleen Vechey
Amber Piekarczyk
Sena Govert
Jessica Pavich
Keri Ostland

Jessica Michels
Arianna Hecht

Nicole Romesburg
Melissa Peterson

The Crushers
To the 30+ girls who passed
through our lives, and made
special memories and a lasting
impression, Thank You!
We are very proud of you.

Love,
Coach Carl & Jayne

Angela Parent
Dana Zukanovich

Laura Worley
Brandy Zukanovich

Beth Connell
Diana Ballas
Lea Powell
Claire Hudacin
Allison Banta
Nancy Robles
Meghan Tzitz
Julie Newman
Allison Gatlin
Lindsay Vrane
Melissa Hart
Sarah Handley

Schoop's

Hamburgers



45th & Cline
(219) 924-6012



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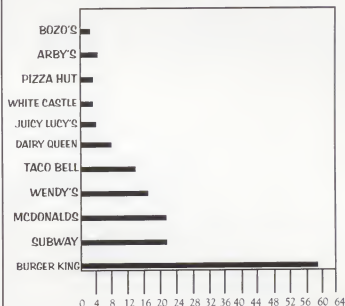
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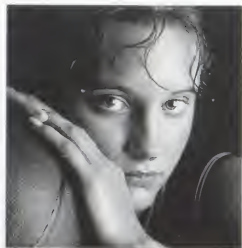
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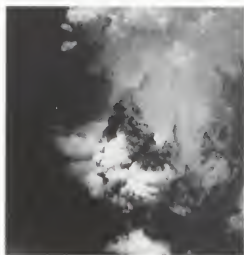


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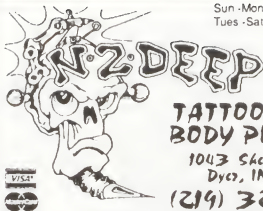
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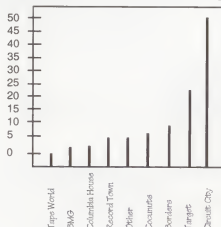
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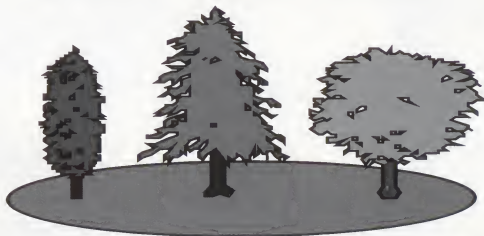
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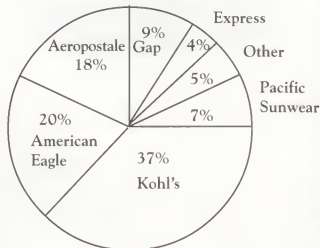
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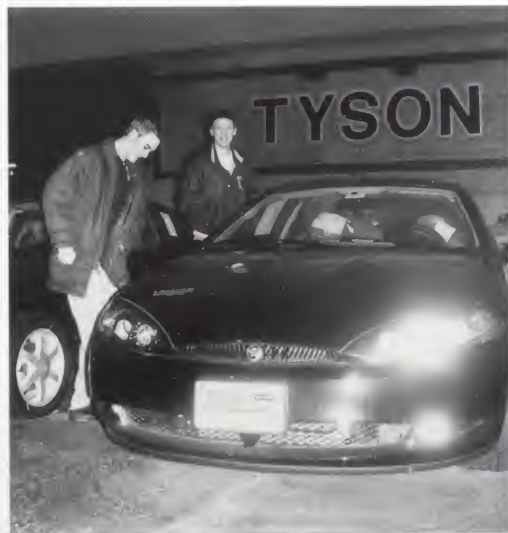
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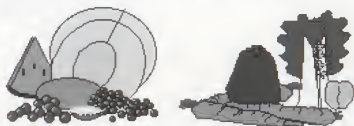


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The Titanic

One more year passed for the 901 students at GHS, but the fun didn't end there. Many student's activities carried into the summer. Some students held summer jobs at the school while both the softball and baseball teams continued to roll on their competitors in post season play. The Reflector staff stayed extra days to finish up the yearbook and the Pantherettes stuck



around to practice over the summer. Many fall sports teams, like cross country, volleyball, soccer and football, began conditioning soon after the doors closed.



The *Last* high school memory for most seniors, however, was graduation. The ceremony was held outside for the first time in 5 years. The attendents were regaled with speeches from Susan Huss, Valedictorian, Mira Damjanovic, Salutatorian, and Victoria Anderson, Senior Class President. Before Linda Einsele could even instruct the 223 seniors to advance their tassles, the class had tossed their caps into the sky.



Clockwise from top left: Getting his head shaved, Rob Gass, gets his hair cut by sophomore Teanna Sutton. Gass said that if any member of his team went to the state competition, then they could shave his head. Celebrating after a performance of the fall musical, *Sugar*, the cast congratulates each other on a great performance. Checking for any misplaced materials, Ruth Carmichael digs through the trash cans on locker clean up day. Carmichael found a biology book in one of trash cans. Walking up to the platform to receive their diplomas, seniors Elaine Parker and Angela Parent practice accepting the diploma and shaking the hand of the presenter.

What will you miss the most?

"Seeing my friends every day."

~Karen Ford, senior

"My free time because when I go to college I won't have any."

~Troy Damron, senior

"Being in school plays because I got to know people that I normally wouldn't talk to."

~Marissa Villaseñor, senior

"Seeing everyone's faces every day, even people I don't really talk to."

~Trisha Fleishman, senior





Annie Hecht



Victor Sendejas



Annie Hecht

Clockwise from top left: Seniors chow down on hotdogs at the first annual Senior Cookout. The cookout was the idea of senior **David Colby**. Posing, seniors **Matthew Najar**, **Lawrence Swentzel**, and **Matthew Sherry**, wait for their picture to be taken at prom. Prom was held at the Hellenic Center in Merrillville. Trudging through the hallways, students make their way to class after locker clean-up. Resting her eyes during Brian Jennings' third hour class, senior **Falon Terrell** catches a little shut eye. Wearing saran wrap, senior **Ayumi Yoshino** shows off her dress. The fourth year sewing classes used saran wrap and garbage bags to practice designing outfits. Freshman **Daniel Moore** carries a sewing machine out of the school. The school sold all of the sewing machines at the end of the year. Senior **Lara Gonzalez** celebrates after graduation which was held on June 10.

Cook ing forward to vacation, students made or finished up plans for the summer. Summer activities ranged from vacationing with family to working to finalizing college plans to hitting the beaches. Students escaped the heat by catching a show at Showplace 16, getting a bite to eat at 'Round the Clock, shopping at the mall or shooting pool at Zak's Crazy Eights. For the more outdoorsy students there was always Schererville Golf Center, games at the baseball park, or the many beaches of the Indiana Dunes. Many students raked in the cash by taking up jobs around town as lifeguards, in the Parks Department, and at Dairy Queen or Subway.

No matter what they had planned for the summer, students at GHS had to take *One Last Cook* around them because when they returned the next year, things would be changing.

~Eric Salczynski



Annie Hecht



Annie Hecht



Annie Hecht



Annie Hecht





the 1990s, the number of people in the UK who are aged 65 and over has increased by 1.5 million, and the number of people aged 75 and over has increased by 1.1 million (Office of National Statistics 1999).

There is a growing awareness of the need to address the needs of older people in the community. The Department of Health (1999) has published a strategy for older people, which sets out the government's commitment to older people and the actions that will be taken to improve their lives. The strategy is based on the following principles:

- Older people should be able to live independently and actively in the community.
- Older people should be able to access the services and facilities they need.
- Older people should be able to participate in the decisions that affect their lives.
- Older people should be able to live in a safe and secure environment.

The strategy also sets out a number of specific actions that will be taken to improve the lives of older people, including:

- Improving the quality of care in residential care homes.
- Improving the quality of care in the community.
- Improving the quality of care in hospitals.
- Improving the quality of care in nursing homes.
- Improving the quality of care in care homes for people with mental health problems.

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- Improving the quality of care in hospitals.
- Improving the quality of care in nursing homes.
- Improving the quality of care in care homes for people with mental health problems.

Table 1. Mean (SD) age, height, weight, and body mass index (BMI) of the 100 children in the study

Measure	Mean (SD)
Age (years)	10.2 (0.5)
Height (cm)	145.2 (10.1)
Weight (kg)	38.5 (10.2)
BMI (kg m ⁻²)	18.6 (3.2)

children were given a verbal explanation of the procedure and then asked to give their assent. The parents were given a written explanation of the procedure and asked to give their consent.

Procedure

Children were randomly assigned to one of two groups. The first group was given a verbal explanation of the procedure and then asked to give their assent. The second group was given a written explanation of the procedure and asked to give their consent.

Results

The mean (SD) age, height, weight, and BMI of the 100 children in the study are shown in Table 1.

Discussion

The results of this study show that children who were given a verbal explanation of the procedure and then asked to give their assent had significantly higher levels of anxiety than children who were given a written explanation of the procedure and asked to give their consent.

Conclusion

The results of this study suggest that children who are given a written explanation of the procedure and asked to give their consent have lower levels of anxiety than children who are given a verbal explanation of the procedure and asked to give their assent.

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Colophon

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The yearbook was printed by Herff Jones at 6015 Travis Lane, Shawnee Mission, KS 66201-2343. 519 books were purchased in sales held between August and March at the cost of \$35-\$50. The cover of the book is navy blue lithograph with gloss lamination, black ink and silver foil stamp. The front endsheets and the first two flats in the first signature are spot-colored with Herff Jones color HJ281 Navy Blue and all pages are printed on Bordeaux Special 100# paper stock.

The cover, end sheets, title page, opening, closing and divider pages were designed by Jessica Everhart and Eric Salczynski. The sections were designed by Candice Peters, Susan Huss, Kellie Sternberg, Amanda Grcevich, Brandi Harveth, and Stacy DuGuard. The opening and closing were written by Eric Salczynski and all divider copy was written by Jessica Everhart. The index was assembled by Jessica Everhart. The photos on the Century in Review spread were used with consent from the Associated Press.

The Reflector staff is a member of the Indiana High School Press Association as well as Quill & Scroll Society. The staff has been awarded with multiple awards which include an outstanding rating for the Hoosier Star Award and individual awards at the JEA National Convention and Ball State's summer workshop.

The goal of the staff was to put out a quality book and include as many students from GHS as possible. Through much deliberation, the theme of the book, "One Last Look," was decided upon by Michelle Cuneo, Jessica

Everhart, Amanda Grcevich, Susan Huss, Julie Rutledge and Eric Salczynski at Ball State's Summer Journalism Workshop and developed with the help of the staff members.

The book was created in the J-Room using thirteen Power Macintoshes, two LaserWriter 16/600 PS printers and two scanners, a UMAX Astra 1200S and an Apple OneScanner. Aldus Pagemaker 6.5, Vista Scan 2.0, and Apple Works 5.0 were used. The theme fonts were Chaucer and ChromaScriptSSL. Other fonts used in the book were Tinkertoy, Helvetica, Bookman, Klang MT, ArabBrush Script, Script Mono Plain, Bubble Soft, Decca Display SSL, Wass, Ross, and Esplanade SSI. The copy font was Goudy and the captions were Flair Thin Normal.

Over 10,000 frames were shot by staff photographers on Kodak T-Max 400 and 3200 speed black and white and color film. All student produced black and white photos were printed by staff photographers in the J-Room dark room on Kodak Polycontrast III RC black and white paper. Team, group, faculty and senior photos were taken and developed by Larry Titak Photography in Schererville, IN. All color photos were developed at Osco in Griffith, IN.

The staff would like their adviser Carolyn Brown for her time, understanding and endless wisdom, Herff Jones, especially Lisa Keene, the staff's representative for her advice and support, and Julie Bogart, the customer service representative, Mr. K for being so cool and supportive of the staff, and the student body for their support.

